

Hafa Adai!

CHC pediatric ward gets toys, books. **PAGE 2**
'ESA protections not warranted for Tinian bird' **PAGE 3**

75¢

Saipan Tribune



TOY DRIVE

Staff of the Maternal Child Health Bureau of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. receives their share of the toys collected under the U.S. Marine Corps program Toys for Tots yesterday.

See story on Page 4

ERWIN ENCINARES

Volume XXVIII, Issue No. 248

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CUC repairs reach \$6.3M

» **FEMA to reimburse CUC for all typhoon-related expenses**

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

As of last Tuesday, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s expenses for restoration in the aftermath of Super Typhoon Yutu has already reached \$6.3 million.

In her presentation at the CUC board meeting last Wednesday, CUC acting chief financial officer Corina Magofña said that Yutu expenses for October totaled \$327,386, but this leaped to \$3,442,792 in November, and

See CUC on Page 4

NOTICE

There will be no issue of *Saipan Tribune* on Dec. 25/26, 2018 and Jan. 1/2, 2018.

Happy Holidays!



'Keep recovery partners in mind this season'

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

With Christmas Day happening next week, the Torres administration urges the public to keep in mind and thank everyone who has helped the islands recover from two devastating typhoons this year.

Acting governor Victor B. Hocog said the best of the island's spirit is re-

See PARTNERS on Page 4

INSIDE



SUPPLEMENT
Today's supplement insert, "Holiday Dining," offers dining suggestions for the holidays.

PAGE 15



NATION
Shaima Swileh simply wants to give her son one more kiss before he dies.

PAGE 26



LIFE & STYLE
Jennifer Lopez learned a long time ago that you can't just sit around waiting

PAGE 29



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Local

CHC pediatric ward gets toys, books



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The Commonwealth Health Center's pediatric ward received 10 toys and 35 books yesterday from a motorcycle club from Salem, Oregon, known as the Taga Riders Forever.

Hospital administrator Jesse Tudela noted that club found-

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ers George and Terry Camacho donated similar Christmas gifts to the ward last year.

"They have been giving gifts from stateside to Saipan for many years now," Tudela said, adding that Camacho contacted him a few weeks ago to expect a package before Christmas.

"He wanted to make sure

that we received it and that every pediatric patient would get one," he said, adding that last year's donation from the motorcycle club has already been given to pediatric patients.

"When you have kids who's sick, you want to cheer them up. It's never fun [for them] to be in the hospital, so having these gifts are much appreci-

ated," said Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. chief executive officer Esther Muña. "We are always grateful for the donations because the kids love them."

"We never want to see a child in the hospital but if they do, we want to make sure this is a part of their healing," Muña added. (Erwin Encinares)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

ARC DONATION

Aqua Resort Club Saipan general manager Kevin Tsurui, third from left, and ARC officials present a \$1,000 cash donation to Commonwealth Cancer Association president Bo T. Palacios, third from right, and executive director Juan L. Babauta, second from left, for its programs and services. Others in photo are, from left, F&B manager Neil Metran, Marketing & Public Relations manager Victoria Sorrell, and F&B assistant manager Ann Razon.

'ESA protections not warranted for Tinian bird'

HONOLULU, Hawaii—The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced yesterday that re-listing a forest bird known as the Tinian monarch as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act is not warranted at this time.

The USFW reviewed the best available information to evaluate the current status of the bird and stressors it faces throughout its range.

Originally listed in 1970, the Tinian monarch was removed from the list of endangered and threatened wildlife in 2004. In 2013, USFW received a petition requesting that the Tinian monarch be re-listed as endangered or threatened under the ESA.

USFW said it completed a rigorous Species Status Assessment and found that the Tinian monarch population remains stable and healthy and does not face the threat of extinction now or in the foreseeable future.

The Tinian monarch, or *Chuchurican tinian* in the Chamorro language, is a forest bird found naturally only on the island of Tinian, now augmented by a small translocated population on the island of Guguan.

This small, six-inch bird is a member of the monarch flycatcher family. It has a light

reddish chest and neck, olive brown back, dark brown wings and tail, white wing bars, a white rump, and a white-tipped tail. Tinian monarchs forage and breed in both non-native *tangan tangan* forests and native limestone forests.

The Tinian monarch was originally listed as an endangered species because the population was extremely small. At the time, the primary threat to the species was thought to be habitat loss that resulted from World War II-era construction and agriculture. However, as soon as *tangan tangan* forests grew back post-World War II, the Tinian monarch began to thrive. The ability of the Tinian monarch to survive and thrive, despite changes to its habitat and in both native and non-native

WIKIPEDIA



forests, is a testimony to the hardiness of this unique bird.

Recent survey data of the Tinian monarch indicate, with

the exception of a notable drop in 2008, the species has maintained a stable trend in abundance and density since

the 1980s. The most recent survey, conducted in 2013, indicates the population was composed of about 90,600 individuals. Although there are potential future threats to the population, including natural events such as typhoons as well as the threats of introduced predators and disease, the bird has maintained a stable, robust population over time.

This finding is available on the Internet at: <https://www.federalregister.gov/>

More information about may be found at: <https://www.fws.gov/pacificislands/>. (PR)

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Toys for Tots program collects over 3,000 toys

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinaires@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

An annual anonymous gift donation and distribution program was able to collect over 3,000 toys despite the state of calamity Super Typhoon Yutu wrought on Saipan and Tinian in late October 2018.

Toys for Tots coordinator Maj. Kenneth Ciara told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that they were able to collect over 3,000 toys.

The program, which is coordinated by the U.S. Marine Corps along with the participation of the Saipan Young Professionals and the Saipan

Chamber of Commerce, collect new but unwrapped toys and distributes them across Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

According to Ciara, about 300 toys were collected on Tinian and Rota, and that all toys would be distributed this weekend.

"We thought that we

[wouldn't be getting] enough [toys] because of the devastation of Typhoon Yutu," Ciara said. "Due to all the good hearts we have here, we had a good outcome."

Yesterday, they handed out some of the toys to the Salvation Army and the Maternal Child Health Bu-

reau of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.

MCHB administrator Heather Pangelinan said the toys donated to the bureau would benefit almost 400 kids throughout the CNMI.

"We are just very grateful for the partnership with the Saipan Chamber of Commerce and their committee, the Saipan Young Profes-

sionals. We are very fortunate to have an organization like that in our community to give back and bring some holiday spirit to the many families we serve," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

"We are very grateful also to the community members who took part and donated toys to make this event happen," she added.

MAN

From Page 1

Camacho told Superior Court Associate Judge Wesley Bogdan that he indeed shot his wife in Dec. 17, 2017, amid a heated argument. "I did shoot my wife, your honor. ... There are no words for what I did," he said.

Camacho cried during his sentencing because he was expecting the presence of his family, who did not show up for the hearing.

"I am so sorry for the pain and the injuries...I just hope and pray that they can forgive me....I wish they were here to hear it from me," he added.

Office of the Attorney General assistant attorney general Teri Tenorio read a statement from the victim where she said she has found peace since the incident and asks, on behalf of her husband, that the court be lenient with Camacho.

Bogdan later sentenced Camacho to 15 years in prison, with five years suspended, without the possibility of parole, work release, or early release. That means he will serve at least 10 years in prison.

Camacho will also be placed on probation for five



Norberto Blas Camacho is led out of the courtroom after his change of plea hearing yesterday in the CNMI Superior Court.

KIMBERLY BAUTISTA

years upon his release.

Other terms of Camacho's plea agreement include the payment of all court fees, to stay 1,000 feet away from the victim and not contact her,

to not harass the victim, and to not possess, carry, or use any firearm.

Camacho will also be required to pay restitution, is barred from going to bars, and

must submit to drug tests.

The incident happened on Dec. 17, 2017, at approximately 11:28pm, Department of Public Safety officers Edward Cepeda and Eric Flores responded to a report of a shooting.

While driving to the scene, the officers noticed a shirtless man standing under a street light along Anonas Drive with a rifle seemingly pointed in their direction.

An off-duty officer, Olympio Muña, informed Cepeda and Flores that the victim was locked inside a house with a gunshot wound to the leg.

The victim, later identified as Camacho's wife, said they have been arguing since three days earlier, and matters escalated after having another argument earlier that evening. Witnesses say they heard at least four gunshots as well as a woman yelling for help, before members inside the home led her to safety. Paramedics transported the victim to the Commonwealth Health Center for treatment at 12:03am, Sunday.

Crime scene technician Leopoldo Duenas Jr later procured the gun, identifying it as a .410 caliber shotgun.

Press secretary Kevin Bautista said that recovery efforts would continue despite the reduced staffing for the holidays.

"Recovery efforts continue to take place. Various federal and regional partners have reduced their staffing for the holidays over the last few days, but recovery efforts will be back at full swing by Jan. 2."

"The community has really come together these last few months, and we are cognizant that there is a lot more work to be done. The holidays are a special time of the year for being with our family and friends, for spreading charity and goodwill throughout our villages, and for giving thanks for those around us," he said.

He added: "This year was an emotional one for all of us, so it's really important that we all take some time off to be with the ones we love and share in the blessings that we have as we move forward on our road to recovery. We want to thank the community for their patience, support, and resilience."

CUC

From Page 1

\$2,570,347 in December.

Magoffia said this brings Yutu restoration expenses for the three-month period to a total of \$6,340,525.

She said the Federal Emergency Management Agency will reimburse all typhoon-related expenses.

CUC's expenses were for labor, equipment rentals, fuel and diesel for vehicles, materials and supplies, repairs and maintenance, meals, generator for Tinian, submersible pump for Marianas Resort & Spa,

other services, and for Guam Power Authority.

Magoffia said the actual total expenses for power, water, sewer, and administration for the month ending Nov. 30 was \$6,417,896.

She noted that, out of the \$6.4 million expenses for the month of November, \$4.7 million (\$1.4 million for payroll and \$3.3 million for operating expenses) will be reimbursed by FEMA.

On CUC's budget overview, Magoffia said the fiscal year 2019 overall budget is \$122.2 million and for the month ending Nov. 30, there is a remaining balance of \$107.8 million.

CHRISTMAS

From Page 1

strangers would gather to bask in the essence of the season.

Amanda Dunn is continuing that tradition, an annual get-together called Saipan Family Christmas Open House.

"Bobbi Gizzard started the Open House tradition and she hosted it for 23 years on Christmas Day," Dunn said. "My family and I would host a Saipan Family Christmas with a gift exchange prior to Christmas. Then, in 2015, we merged them together to make it the 'Saipan Family Christmas Open House' and moved it to our house."

This year, the Open House tradition is now 27 years old.

"We have hosted the Saipan Family Christmas for nine years now," said Dunn. "Many of us live on island and don't have family near and need somewhere to go to celebrate this wonderful day."

No man is an island and this is especially true during Christmas where everyone is expected to spend it with family. That thought alone—not a movement or an active organization—led to the birth of the tradition.

"I think Christmas is a very special time of the year and I am blessed to spend it on such a wonderful place. I love Saipan but it can get lonely on the holidays if you are alone," Dunn said.

"During my first Saipan Christmas, I traveled and went to Korea, then on my second Christmas I thought I would just stay on island, but most of the people that I knew were busy with their

PARTNERS

From Page 1

flected in everyone this Christmas. "This is a special time of the year for rejoicing with our family and friends, for spreading charity and goodwill throughout our villages, and for giving thanks for all of the blessings in our lives."

"As we move forward in our road to recovery from both Typhoon Mangkhut and Super Typhoon Yutu, we are especially thankful for the countless local and first responders and volunteers who have given their time and generosity to help get us back on our feet," added Hocog.

Hocog, who is the incoming Senate president in the 21st Legislature, signed a memorandum yesterday granting administrative leave to all non-critical government employees on Monday.

"Heading into the Christmas holiday weekend, I am hereby authorizing non-critical employees of the Commonwealth's departments and agencies to take administrative leave on Monday, Dec. 24."

"To our government employees, thank you all for your hard work and service to improve these islands we call home. Let us continue to

rebuild our islands stronger and more resilient than ever before. On behalf of Gov. Torres, our families, and the entire administration, we hope you and your families have a merry Christmas and a happy New Year."

Hocog said he and Torres also thank everyone who labored through the recovery efforts of the islands.

"Gov. Torres and I want to express our sincerest gratitude to our CNMI Joint Field Office staff, the CNMI Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the [U.S.] Department of Defense, the American Red Cross, our law enforcement officers, our volunteer organizations, and our private sector partners," he said.

"This year was an eventful one for the Marianas for many reasons. As we close this year, let us renew our bonds and friendships with one another and remind ourselves that we are one CNMI family—dedicated to progress and committed to recovery. We want to thank the community for their patience, support, and resilience."

families or traveling and so it was really kind of sad. Then I met more people and went to Bobbi Gizzard's Open House on Christmas Day and, since then, Christmas has been full and anything but lonely," Dunn added.

The idea of opening up her house on Christmas Day to many people is not something that everybody is willing to do but Dunn said her grandmother influenced her in many ways. "My grandmother was very hospitable and the door was always open. ...I had 18 cousins and we would spend Christmas together with aunts and uncles, so I always remember Christmas as a good time of big gatherings and good food. Everyone pitches in for a big potluck and that, too, is how we do it—everyone brings a dish of their specialty to share and the kind of beverages they prefer and we share in one true family-style day."

A part in the program has Santa Claus showing up and calling the children by their names and giving them gifts.

"Seeing the children light up when Santa arrives and spending time with them is special in a Saipan family sort of way. ...Parents bring a gift for Santa to give to the children and everyone brings food to help make a feast," she said.

"It's always a great time and we have a lot of fun exchanging gifts and playing Christmas games...Even with Saipan being a small island, sometimes I will meet people for the first time at Christmas and see them again after many months—but Christmas Day gives us that connection," she added.

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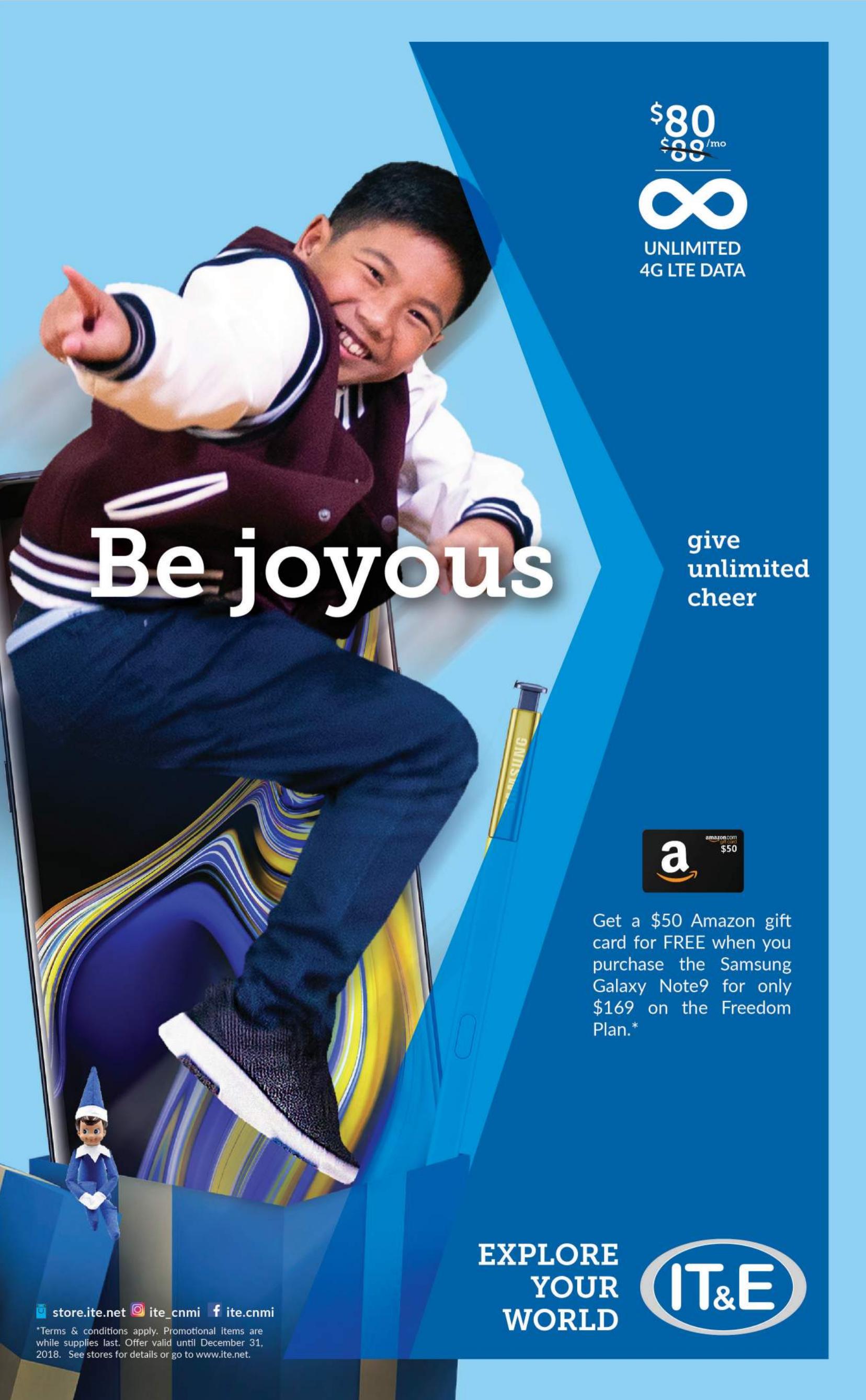
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WITH SKYMARK ALLIANCE MVA seeks to creates buzz in Japan

The Marianas Visitors Authority wants to generate "high awareness" in Japan about the launch of Skymark Airlines' direct flights to Saipan as part of its marketing strategy to revive the Japan market.

MVA Japan general manager Takahashi Ichikura said they are going to make official announcements about the new direct flights to Saipan.

MVA hopes this will create buzz of something new in the Marianas, said Ichikura in his presentation about the Japan market during the MVA's general membership meeting last week at Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan's Hibiscus Hall.

Skymark Airlines will be the first Japan-based carrier to have air services in the CNMI

since 2005. It has leased an office space at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport as it prepares to launch flights between Japan and Saipan in early part of 2019.

Ichikura said their marketing plan for fiscal year 2019 has two phases—interim period for the first and second quarters, and a campaign period for the third and fourth quarters.

During the interim period, they plan to promote two destinations in one trip, such as going to beach in the CNMI and shopping in Seoul while in transit.

Ichikura said their proposed campaign is to take off with sense of expectation/excitement. He said the Skymark's colors will be used in the logo.

In spring next year, Ichikura said, hip-hop group Doberman Infinity, which produced the official image song for MVA, will be coming to Saipan to create a promotional video.

He also discussed, among other things, how they came up with destination rebranding of the CNMI in the past year.

As for Super Typhoon Yutu relief initiative, Ichikura said they will distribute to media partners the status of the CNMI government's recovery efforts.

He said they developed the #Marianas STRONG relief logo and opened a #Marianas STRONG fundraising account. He said #Marianas STRONG donation boxes will also be placed on Saipan. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

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BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



ASSOCIATION DONATION

The Guam Association of Realtors donates \$10,000 to the Ayuda Foundation for post-Super Typhoon Yutu relief efforts on Saipan and Tinian. From left, Ryan De Guzman, association state/local director; Jodee Duenas, state/local director; Bree McDowell; Scott Campbell, state/local vice president and treasurer; Peggy Llagas, CEO and government affairs director, GAR; Coleen Blas, state/local secretary; and Marilou Lacson, state/local director, present a check for \$10,000 to (foreground from left) Walden Weilbacher and Sen. Jim Espaldon, both of Ayuda Foundation, to help with the post-Yutu relief efforts on Saipan and Tinian. The association extends its appreciation to members including Pat Feore and Anthony Godwin who volunteered to initiate additional relief initiatives. The Ayuda Foundation continuously accepts monetary and in-kind donations such as toiletries and non-perishable food items from the community. For more information, contact Ayuda Foundation at (671) 473-3003.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 15th birthday, KC! May all your wishes and dreams come true. We love you! Greetings come from your family.

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jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

All members of the Cabinet, boards, and commissions have been asked to submit their courtesy letters of resignation as they would undergo a review by the incoming Torres administration.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, who will be spending the Christmas and New Year holiday with his family in Idaho, asked all government heads to turn in their courtesy resignations by 3pm today to the Office of the Governor. The resignations should be in sealed envelopes.

In a statement, Torres said that they remain committed to achieving greater things for the people of the CNMI despite the administration's accomplishments. "Even with our many accomplishments, we are committed to achieving even greater things for the Marianas."

"With a new incoming administration with new goals, now is the appropriate time to evaluate where we are today, how well we are serving the people, and who is best to accomplish the new administration's goals."

Torres, who was the lieutenant governor of then-governor Eloy S. Inos and became the CNMI chief executive after Inos' death, won last month's elections with Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan) as his running mate. The governor-elect and lieutenant governor-elect defeated the tandem of former governor Juan N. Bautista and Dr. Rita A. Sablan.

Torres said he and Inos, after the 2014 elections, came into office with a lot of goals. "Chief among our goals was improving our economy and bringing prosperity back to the islands, securing the retirement benefits of our government retirees, and making government work for the people in an effective and accountable manner."

Inos, however, died in December 2015 pushing Torres to the top post. "Through the years, our administration has faced many challenges in accomplishing these goals. ... The issues regarding immigration, labor, and military activities threatened to impede or even derail our economy. Of course, typhoons Soudelor and Mangkhut and Super Typhoon Yutu devastated the infrastructure of our islands and the livelihood of its people."

Torres said his administration managed to navigate the rough waters. "Our administration nonetheless persevered and overcame the challenges to accomplish its goals. Today

the economy is vibrant and government retirees are secure in their benefits. The delivery of government services

is more effective and efficient than ever before. I am proud of the work we accomplished together."

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy Holidays & Thank You

To our Precinct 2 Voters, families and friends:

Your vote, dedication and your compassion every day is so important and so appreciated.

Your Precinct 2 Representatives, Rafael S. Demapan & John Paul P. Sablan

Soroptimist International of the NMI president Maureen Sebangiol, center, joins officers and members in collecting toys and gifts for children at Guma Esperanza as part of their annual Christmas community project.

Soroptimist International-CNMI deliver gifts to Guma Esperanza

A local nonprofit group for women, Soroptimist International of the Northern Mariana Islands, is once again bringing cheer to the children at Guma Esperanza (House of Hope) for the holiday season by delivering toys and educational materials.

Club members gathered for the monthly meeting last Thursday afternoon at the Dolphin Tower Restaurant at Grandvrio Resort to collect toys and gifts for close to 30 children at the shelter.

"Ever since the club was chartered, Guma Esperanza has been one of our primary charity organizations that we support," said SINMI president Maureen Sebangiol.

"It is our primary goal to support women and these are

women that are in stressed and distressed situations so we are supporting them. They are moms for the most part so when we give gifts to the children, that take the stress away from them and makes their lives better. These children are in a situation through no making of their own, so this also kind of reminds them that there are good things in the world," she added.

SINMI also inducted three new members: Susan Satur, Pina Magofna, and Laila Boyer and welcomed them to the club.

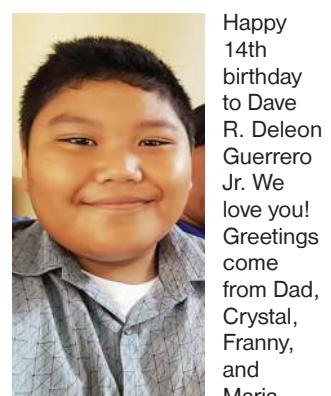
Soroptimist International NMI is a part of the global organization called Soroptimist International of the Americas with 75,000 members in 122 countries. (PR)

7 Saipan beaches are red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged seven Saipan beaches and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Affected sites are Plumeria Hotel, Tanapag Meeting Hall, Central Repair Shop, DPW Channel Bridge, Garapan Fishing Dock, Jeffrey Beach, and Hidden Beach. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. (DEQ)

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



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Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Shark fins belong on sharks, not in trophy rooms or soup

Sharks are the apex predator of the ocean—they are at the top of the food chain, prey to no other animal in the water. Their size, strength and, of course, their teeth make them the quintessential movie monsters. In real life, they regularly get screen time on TV news when they maim or kill a person.

But, fearsome or not, their presence in the ocean is essential to its health, helping keep its ecosystems in balance and influencing the behavior and distribution of other species. Without sharks, the fish population would actually be far less diverse, with fewer herbivores, and coral reefs would be more endangered than they are now.

While sharks prevail in the oceans, they are no match for fishers who catch them to cut off their fins for sale. Up to 73 million sharks are pulled from the water each year, according to the ocean protection organization Oceana, and hauled on board a fishing vessel, where their fins are sawed off their live bodies. Then they are thrown back into the water where, without their fins, they cannot get water to flow over their gills to access oxygen. They drown, starve to death, or drift down in the water, where they are eaten alive by other animals.

This barbaric and wasteful practice feeds a market for the expensive Chinese delicacy known as shark-fin soup, and for shark fin curios that are put up for sale.

Of the numerous species of sharks, close to a third are considered to be in danger of extinction. Some shark populations have been reduced to 10 percent of their historical levels. But it's impossible to tell which cut-off fins are from which species of shark.

The U.S. has long prohibited shark finning in its own waters—and the European Union, Canada, Australia and some other countries have similar bans in their waters. But it still occurs in international waters and those of other nations. The state of California did its part to stanch the commercial traffic in fins by passing a law in 2011 that bans the possession or sale of shark fins. Currently, 11 other states have similar bans in place. But that hasn't stopped the international export of fins to the other 38 states, some of which, then, become hubs in the U.S. for commerce in shark fins.

The ideal way to tackle this issue is with a federal ban. Bills have been introduced in both the House and Senate to forbid the possession, sale or purchase of any shark fin or product containing shark fin (with some limited exceptions). This is a straightforward, common-sense approach that has broad, bipartisan support in Congress. Rep. Ed Royce (R-Fullerton), the original sponsor of the House bill, has 261 co-sponsors on his bill. The Senate bill, introduced by Sen. Cory Booker (D-N.J.), has 39 co-sponsors.

Given that kind of support, it should not be difficult for House leaders to pull the bill out of the Natural Resources Committee and get it to the floor so it can be voted on before Congress adjourns for the year. There isn't enough time left to move the measure through the Senate, but passing it in the House would give the proposal some momentum in the new Congress, rather than forcing supporters to start over.

See SHARK on Next Page



Making Americans more immigrant-friendly

President Donald Trump may ultimately be a unifying force on one of the most divisive issues in U.S. politics: immigration.

That's not Trump's intent, of course. Having launched his presidential campaign in 2015 with a demagogic assault on immigrants, Trump has been a reliable fount of calumny ever since. His policies, from brutalizing children at the border—a 7-year-old girl died in U.S. custody last week—to terminating Temporary Protected Status for refugees, appear designed to convince his MAGAnauts that he can, and somehow will, forestall the further browning of America.

In public opinion, immigration is an imperfect substitute for "race." However, Trump has succeeded in making it a more meaningful one. As numerous political science analyses have determined, Trump's racial animus is the sticky goo that binds him to his most enthusiastic followers. That goo may be a potent political force, but it's not a boundless one. Trump appears to have found its limits.

The NBC/Wall Street Journal poll has been asking survey respondents since 2005 whether "immigration helps the United States more than it hurts it." In December 2005, 37 percent said immigration helps more, while 53 percent said it hurts.

That anti-immigrant sentiment, regularly measured by the poll, largely prevailed until 2012, when opinions started gradually to shift. In the most recent poll, taken in September, the pro-immigration "helps" line reached a peak of 61 while the anti-immigration "hurts" side hit a new low at 28. Measured from December 2005 until September 2018, there is a 49-point swing in favor of immigration "helps."

Likewise, in June this year, Gallup recorded a new high of 75 percent of Americans saying they believe immigration is a "good thing."

In the 2018 midterm elections, Democratic pollster Stanley Greenberg wrote, Democrats ran as a "self-confident multicultural party" against a GOP running as an "anti-immigrant party." The results were not good for the anti-immigrant side.

The greatest risk for Republicans is that Trump's racial malice will energize nonwhite voters to be more politically engaged while also alienating them, long-term, from the GOP.

That's what may have happened in California after the state GOP's anti-immigrant turn under Republican Governor Pete Wilson, who won election in 1994 with a sharp anti-immigrant campaign. "The California GOP went from virtually splitting the Hispanic vote in 1990 to only capturing 17 percent of it in 1998," wrote Alex Nowrasteh, an immigration expert at the Cato Institute, in an analysis of the electoral consequences. By contrast, during the same period Republicans in Texas continued to be competitive with Hispanic voters and in Florida, then-Governor Jeb Bush claimed to have won 60 percent of the Hispanic vote in his 2002 re-election.

By FRANCIS WILKINSON

Bloomberg News

Francis Wilkinson writes editorials on politics and U.S. domestic policy for Bloomberg Opinion. He was executive editor of *The Week*. He was previously a writer for *Rolling Stone*, a communications consultant and a political media strategist.



I asked veteran Democratic consultant Bill Carrick, adviser to California Senator Dianne Feinstein, whether he sees Trump cultivating a California-style backlash. "Trump is doing for immigration nationwide what Pete Wilson did in 1994," Carrick emailed. "The more we debate the immigration issue, the more supportive voters become of immigration reform."

Political scientist Dan Hopkins of the University of Pennsylvania wrote in 2017 that "Americans became more liberal on immigration at exactly the time that Trump and the Republicans turned more hard-line."

However, in an email last week, Hopkins said that his research, using a survey group that has been stable over several years, suggests that the pro-immigrant drift in the electorate has slowed. "The big-picture summary from my data," he wrote, "is one of remarkable stability since Trump took office."

That's largely what Republican pollster David Winston sees as well. In a detailed report on the 2018 midterms, Winston concluded that the immigration debate did hurt Republican candidates. "The focus on the immigration/caravan issue instead of the positive jobs report in the last days of the campaign had a net result of late deciders breaking for Democrats by 12 points," Winston wrote.

But Winston doesn't think Democrats are necessarily gaining ground. The basic values debate between the parties, Winston said in a telephone interview, is that the U.S. is a "country of laws" (Republican) versus a "country of immigrants" (Democratic). "The public believes in both of these values," Winston said. The job of politicians, he said, is to figure out how to make those values work together.

Making things work is not Trump's strong suit. Consequently, there is a high probability that the immigration issue will fester until a new president is sworn in. But even if Trump doesn't drive still more Americans into the pro-immigrant camp, the next president appears poised to have a stronger pro-immigrant constituency than Barack Obama had at any point during his presidency.

"There is a Trump effect," said immigration advocate Frank Sharry, via email. "When it comes to the public's view of immigrants and pro-immigration policies, Trump has made them more popular than ever."

Power to the people!

In this space last week I looked at “power banks,” external batteries used to power cell phones and other devices when wall power is unavailable. This is a necessity in Saipan’s blackout-prone environment. Even if they’re not engaging a cell signal, people often use their phones as cameras, video cameras, address books, and so on. I’ve tried a variety of small power banks for cell-phone charging. I had good results with all of them. In this realm some power banks cost less than \$12. Prices of \$30 to \$50 are more typical.

Well, so far, so good.

For some people, though, a cell phone isn’t enough technology to meet the demands of life. So here we climb to the higher end of the power bank realm, namely, those that power laptop computers. This is more demanding, more expensive, and more complicated than the realm of cell-phone power banks.

Here’s something you probably know but I’ll mention it anyway: Your computer’s power brick takes AC (alternating current) power from the wall socket and converts it to DC (direct current) voltage that enters your computer.

Although the AC voltage is standard within various regions of the globe (Saipan meets the U.S. standard of 110 volts) the DC voltage is not standard. It will vary by the model of computer. From what I’ve seen it’s usually in the range of around 14 volts to 20 volts. This information is stamped on the computer’s power brick. So, too, is the amperage.

As for amperage, if you have a power-thirsty computer that sucks a lot of amperage, your power bank might not be able to feed its appetite, so you’ve got to keep an eye on this factor as well. I don’t sweat the amperage factor because only my most efficient and smallest (12-inch screen) computer is earmarked for power bank use. My larger and thirstier laptops are benched

when I have no wall power.

As for power banks themselves, since they’re battery-powered their juice is DC.

With this information in mind, we’re now equipped to confront a major fork in the road. This is the DC- vs. AC-fork.

Some power banks only provide DC output. These power banks are surrogates for your power brick. This has the advantage of simple, DC-to-DC efficiency. It has the disadvantage of requiring the same voltage for both the power bank output and the computer input. If these two elements don’t match (or are at least extremely close), you’re dead in the water. Some power banks offer only one DC voltage for output, while some offer several voltages in order to expand the amount of computers they can work with.

Other power banks, by contrast, convert their battery power into AC power. They are, essentially, wall sockets in a box. You simply plug your computer’s power brick into the power bank instead of into a wall socket. This has the advantage of steering around DC voltage compatibility issues. It has the disadvantage of some conversion inefficiency as things flip from DC to AC and then back to DC again.

Here’s another consideration: airline travel. To be allowed onto an airliner I believe that, in general, the limit on a power bank is 100 watt-hours of capacity. There are some details here, but, having been alerted to the issue, you can dig those up when you need to.

How many hours of computer power can we get from these things? That’s really the issue. And it’s an issue I’m still working on. Lately I’ve been trying out the largest-capacity power bank

By ED STEPHENS JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com. His column runs every Friday.



I’ve managed to get my hands on. This is the “Maxoak K2,” which is rated at 185 watt-hours. It typically costs about \$135. However, a sale popped up and I landed one for \$99.

The Maxoak K2 should, in theory, power my computer for about 25 hours. Although it seems to be in the rough ballpark on that count, I want to get more experience with it before I reach any conclusions. In the meantime, I’ll note that the Maxoak K2 powers laptops via a single 20-volt DC, 5-amp port. Mine has not hiccuped, malfunctioned, or done anything weird during use. It also has four USB ports and a 12-volt DC port. Anyway, that’s where my power bank attention has been focused of late.

Although there are many details to juggle, the news on the power bank front is really all good news. After all, we’ve got more and more ways to keep connected and to keep working when the lights go out.

If you have any comments or insights, I am, as always, happy to hear from you.

In the meantime, my family and I wish everyone in the CNMI a very Merry Christmas!

Poverty income debacle

Appalling that some 15,000 (out of a total of 26,000 employees) are stuck at the poverty income level. Imagine how families deal with hardship forced by the lack of adequate buying power to meet basic needs.

It means most families here are literally struggling as politicians propose another hasty plan to raise their salaries. Have people on the hill done anything concrete to address and resolve this difficult filial inadequacy? Is your answer in the affirmative?

The issue only needs use of simple common sense that doesn’t even rise to a level requiring use of initial apprehension.

What’s the mystery misstep, gentlemen? Isn’t it your fiduciary duty to improve the livelihood of your people? Have you started anything on this score?

Self-government: At the recent Constitution Day, I was hoping it would include a ceremony to extend gratitude to our elderly statesmen who worked diligently on the Covenant Agreement that was approved in 1975.

Their entire career spans the history of the NMI and trail blazed major issues to advance our plight on self-government. They deserve a sense of gratitude from our community.

It is the vision inherent in the document that set the stage for political stability and the benefits it provided for real time socio-economic growth on the islands. It opened up the floodgates for Nippon and other investments. These are the highlights of the agreement.

By 1993, the NMI had more than sufficient internally generated revenues for all its needs. That was a grand accomplishment for these isles.

■ ■ ■

Councils: Self-government hails from “we the people” at the municipal level. This is where it all begins!

It boggles the mind, though, that the two constitutional conventions have denied the mayors the right to select their people for immediate jobs.

The misplaced authority still comes from somewhere in the central government so far removed from governance.

Must learn to trust and work with mayors so there isn’t arbitrary denial of rightful authority. It’s called political maturity and the ability to work together in harmony.

■ ■ ■

Music: I was a musician for about 25 years. I still have my ukulele and guitar I’d strum occasionally to hum melodies of yesteryears. Love the classics with beautiful melodies and meaningful lyrics, e.g., *Somewhere Over the Rainbow*, *Mood for Love*, and *Stars Fell in Alabama*, among others.

It was through music that I literally helped mom and dad meet basic family needs. It was a time when we critically share what little we had to ensure the wellbeing of one and all. Memories!

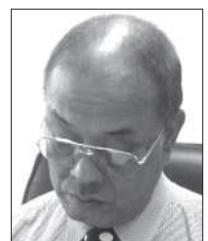
■ ■ ■

Homes: I am in agreement with Stanley Torres that we should stop the placement of mobile homes and container houses on the western front of the island. The net result would be additional colossal ruination of the beach side. How about building

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



them on hillsides? It still offers a fine view of the ocean, right?

■ ■ ■

Hunger is a painful experience. I’ve had my share of it a long time ago. I never knew, though, that there are others nearby with far worse situation. In other words, they had to endure going without food for days.

This bothered me to the marrow of my bones. Was it a case of joblessness? At that time, we didn’t have any form of assistive programs like food stamps. So we muddled through with what we could find. If it’s faucet water then faucet water it is! Hard Days Night!

■ ■ ■

In spite of the hardship, I’ve never lost sight of the vision of greater things ahead. It’s embedded in my spirit with a healthy dosage of hope to move forward. Gratefully, the Lord’s steady hands guided my journey to this day.

■ ■ ■

Echo: It piques my interest when I hear a distant echo like fishing ventures, etc. But it’s a familiar echo I’ve heard over the last four decades. Sadly, it slides right into an adage, “After all is said and done a lot more is said than done”. Biba Marianas!

■ ■ ■

Term: There’s a difference between a public servant and guardian. The elected elite is the former while mine is the latter. Do you now see why my role is no walk in the park either? But must keep an eye on *da kine odda* guys!

For the most part, though, these folks are decent. You wanted them there as policymakers so give them the respect they deserve. It’s good to review their work at year’s end. It’s healthy keeping them on their toes!

■ ■ ■

Felis Noche Buena to one and all! JR and family.

SHARK

From Page 12

The U.S. is hardly the largest market for shark fins. China, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Singapore and Taiwan are the top five markets. The U.S. ranks 12th. But that shouldn’t stop Congress from closing off the entire country to this trade and becoming a leader in the denunciation of this savage, unnecessary practice. Only sharks need their fins.

Kindness: Giving it and living it

LITERARY NOOK

By JOEY ‘PEPE BATBON’ CONNOLLY

Special to the Saipan Tribune



Joey “Pepe Batbon” Connolly is a retired teacher and has been named a poet laureate of Tinian. He has taught English in CNMI public schools for the past 30 years. He has also taught in Alaska, New Orleans, and Las Vegas.

“K indness is a language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see.”

—Mark Twain

Six of one kind half a dozen kindness of another a double dose of love and three run fun homer coming from friends family sister and brother Kindness from everyone somewhat of a misnomer it is a best friend of love and balm for sorrow Kindness of being and being together as one yesterday last night today and all day tomorrow during and after typhoons in tropical rain and sun many kinds of kindness exist physical and mental the German language word for kindness is ‘friedlich’ Kindness can be experimental and developmental New Zealanders practice kindness with Kiwi English to paraphrase Gump ‘kindness is as kindness does’ from flower to honey kindness as worker bees buzz.

Kindness acrostic

Dedicated to the prime minister of New Zealand, Jacinda Ardern. From her interview in a new edition of 200 Women, she was asked, “What really matters to you? Her reply: “Empathy and kindness, because that’s what can drive social change...” When asked which single word she most identifies with, she said, “Kindness.”

K - Kindness

I - In every decision we make

N - Nicety and benevolence with firm intent

D - Demonstrated daily

NE - Energy and strength of will to do it

S - Sense of awareness of others, community, environment

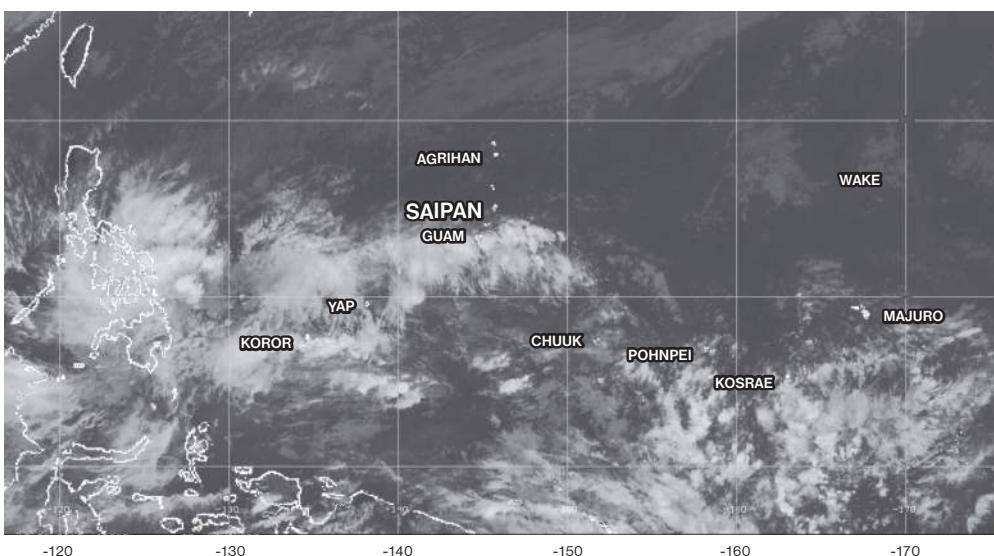
S - Sense of self giving and sharing - Need for the whole world

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers.
87°	78°	87°	78°	87°
77°	88°	77°	88°	77°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:18 AM, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2018

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

No significant changes were made to the forecast except to push back the onset time of the scattered showers to this afternoon based on current observations, radar, satellite and model guidance. However, it does appear that later this afternoon and into tonight will be the most likely time for scattered showers to occur over the area, with the best chances for Guam and Rota. Increasing pressure gradient between a large area of high pressure off of Japan and lower pressure to the south will increase winds as well at least for today with slightly lower wind tonight and Friday. Drier weather then moves in Friday night through the weekend and into the early part of next week.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲	▼	°F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	87°	/	79°
Palau	Thunderstorms	85°	/	78°
Yap	Thunderstorms	86°	/	79°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	85°	/	80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	85°	/	77°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	86°	/	78°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	86°	/	80°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲	▼	°F
Auckland	Showers	72°	/	63°
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	46°	/	19°
Hong Kong	Cloudy	75°	/	70°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	80°	/	71°
London	Partly Cloudy	70°	/	52°
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	75°	/	55°
Manila	Showers	88°	/	75°
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	66°	/	52°
Miami	Windy	72°	/	58°
New York	Rain	59°	/	47°
Osaka	Showers	64°	/	50°
Paris	Rain	57°	/	52°
Busan	Partly Cloudy	57°	/	45°
Rome	Mostly Sunny	57°	/	48°
Salem	Rain	46°	/	32°
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	56°	/	46°
Seoul	Mostly Cloudy	46°	/	27°
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	61°	/	46°
Washington, DC	Showers	63°	/	45°



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

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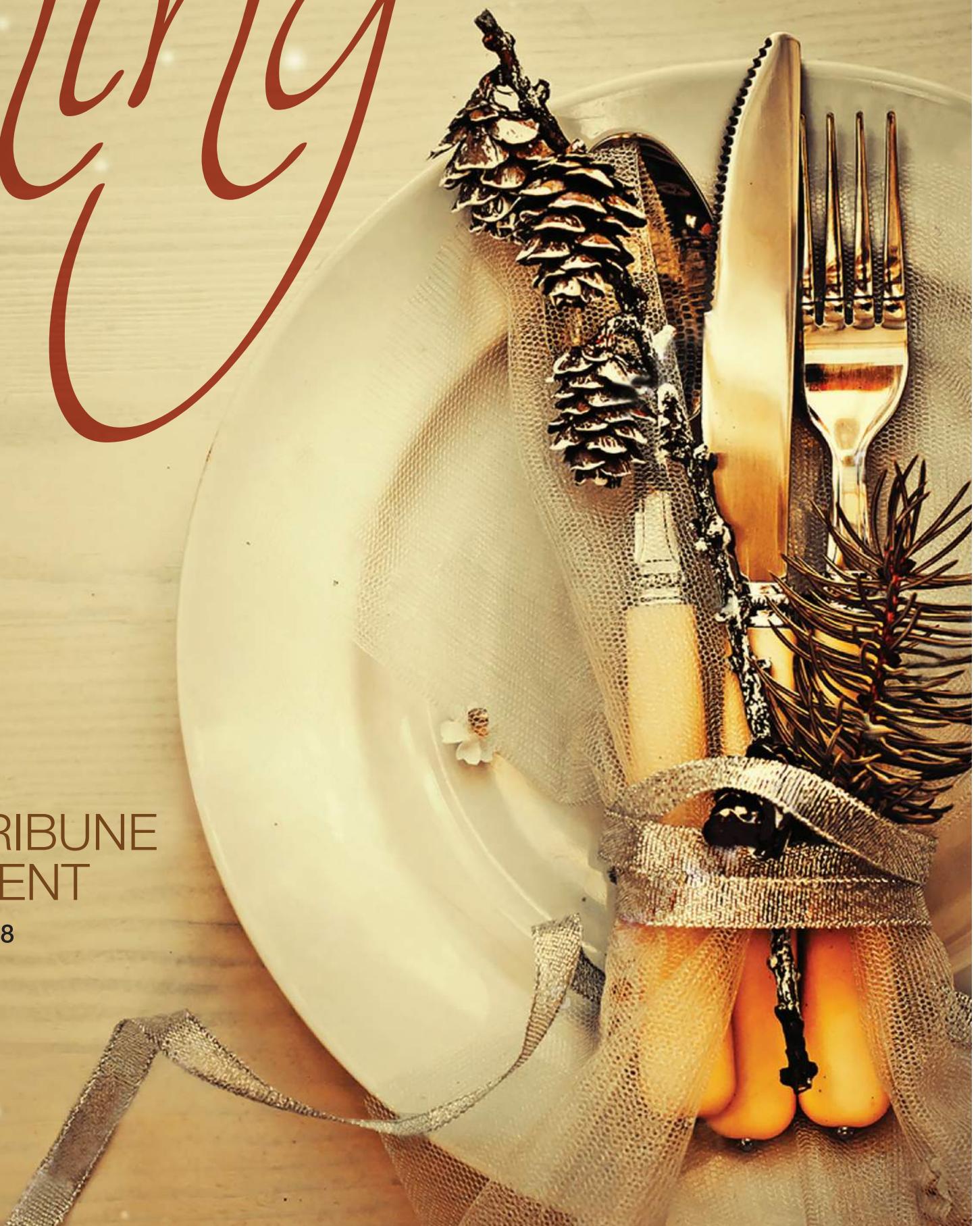
FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF DECEMBER 20, 2018

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117 9:15am 9:55am Daily				UA174 7:30am 8:11am Daily			
UA105 4:45pm 5:25pm 2, 4				UA104 3:00pm 3:41pm 2, 4			
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3451 3:15am 6:30am Daily				7C3452 9:35pm 2:00am+1 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7			
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				7C3452 10:05pm 2:00am+1 1			
OZ626 2:10am 6:00am 1				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ626 2:50am 6:40am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7				7C3402 10:10am 3:30pm Daily			
7C3401 4:30pm 8:25pm Daily				OZ625 7:40pm 1:00am+1 7			
TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED:				OZ625 8:20pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6			
TW9308 1:10am 4:10am 3, 4				TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED:			
TW308 1:35am 5:20am Daily				TW9307 6:30pm 12:10am+1 2, 3			
TW9308 3:20am 6:30am 2				TW307 7:00pm 12:35am+1 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7			
TW9308 3:25am 6:30am 5				TW307 7:05pm 12:35am+1 1			
7C3403 4:35am 8:25am Daily				TW9307 9:00pm 2:20am+1 1			
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				TW9307 9:05pm 2:55am+1 4			
3U8648 6:10am 8:50am 1, 4, 5, 7				7C3404 10:10pm 3:40am+1 Daily			
SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN				HANGZHOU (GHH)-SAIPAN			
3U8647 10:20pm 4:50am+1 3, 4, 6, 7				JD395 8:05am 3:30pm 4			
JD396 4:50pm 7:55pm 4				JD395 9:35pm 5:00am+1 7			
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646 4:30am 7:55am 2, 6				3U8645 7:55pm 2:40am+1 1, 5			
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764 1:30am 6:35am 3, 5, 7				MU763 4:40pm 12:30am+1 2, 4, 6			
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
UA117/183 9:15am 9:40pm 2, 5 via GUM				UA182/174 12:40am 8:11am+1 3, 6 via GUM			
UA117/183 9:15am 9:50pm 1, 3, 4, 6, 7				PR110/UA174 10:05pm 8:11am+1 Daily via GUM			
UA117/193 9:15am 11:50pm 2, 5 via GUM-ROR				UA192/174 10:30pm 8:11am+1 2, 5 via GUM-ROR			
UA105/183 4:45pm 9:40pm 2 via GUM				UA184/174 10:55pm 8:11am+1 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			
UA105/183 4:45pm 9:50pm 4 via GUM				HX072/625 1:15pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN			

holiday dining

SAIPAN TRIBUNE
SUPPLEMENT

DECEMBER 21, 2018



'Christmas goes on'

By BEA CABRERA
beacabreraasaipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Nothing stops the CNMI community from celebrating Christmas. Not even Super Typhoon Yutu.

Whatever the circumstances may be, whether one has a house to go home to or just a temporary tent or even a shelter, people in the Commonwealth who are

still struggling to regain a sense of normalcy will, perhaps more than at any other time, meet Christmas with welcoming arms for the comforts of tradition that it offers, whether you are continuing one or creating new ones.

However you celebrate the holiday season, there is always a silver lining and it may prove even truer this time that the real meaning of Christmas—unity and love—will shine through.



"Christmas is spent with family and we usually have turkey, ham, [and] barbecue. Christmas is always fun and this year it also tells us to stay strong."

—Danesa Taylor,
San Antonio



"I will be spending Christmas with my family. We value the time spent with each other in our home, not thinking of work and other responsibilities. Usually, we buy fried or roasted chicken, salad, and some fruits. After all, Christmas is celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ our Savior, as this is a gift from God."

—Ofel Sugilon, Dandan



"I will be with family this Christmas—my parents, siblings and relatives from Anchorage. Most likely, we are going to eat at Tony Roma's for Christmas dinner and maybe ham will be served at home. We still don't have power at home but after [Super] Typhoon Yutu, it made me realize that spending time with family and friends is always the best times."

—Elizabeth Waldo,
Koblerville

Happy New Year!

Aqua Resort Club invites you to celebrate the coming new year with delicious buffets at Costa Terrace Restaurant, Savory Set Menus at Kevin's Fine Dining, Sunset Beach BBQ Dinner Show, and our New Year's Eve Countdown Party at Michelle's!

Costa
Terrace Restaurant

KEVIN'S
The Prime Rib & Seafood

Michelle's
Beach Bar

Sunset Beach
BBQ

New Year's Eve
Gala Dinner Buffet
December 31, 2018
6:00pm - 9:00pm
\$42.00/adult
\$21.00/child
*\$38.00/adult
*\$19.00/child

New Year's Eve
Special Set Menu
December 31, 2018
6:00pm - 10:00pm
Set A - \$90.00 /adult
Set B - \$80.00 /adult

New Year's Eve
Countdown Party
December 31, 2018
9:00pm - 1:00am
Poolside Fireworks
Alana'ia Polynesian
Dancer Show
Live DJ

New Year's Eve
BBQ Dinner Show
December 30, 2018
6:00pm - 9:00pm

New Year's Eve
BBQ Dinner Show
December 31, 2018
6:00pm - 9:00pm

New Year's Day
BBQ Dinner Show
January 1, 2019
6:00pm - 9:00pm

Alana'ia Polynesian
Dinner Show
Menu Options Vary

New Year's Day
Champagne Brunch
January 1, 2019
11:00am - 2:00pm
\$40.00/adult
\$20.00/child
*\$36.00/adult
*\$18.00/child

New Year's Day
Special Set Menu
January 1, 2019
6:00pm - 10:00pm
Set A - \$90.00 /adult
Set B - \$80.00 /adult



AQUA RESORT CLUB
Saipan



"Christmas is always spent with family and we make sure that my three children are happy because they look forward to it. We make them happy by preparing their favorite *noche buena* food like spaghetti and fruit salad, and since we don't have power yet, I'll probably get cake instead of our usual ice cream. Christmas for my family is more [about] giving than receiving."

—Grace Enriquez,
Koblerville



"I will be with my husband and employees in my business. We treat our workers like family and we enjoy celebrating Christmas together. Our celebration is always simple, with our favorite food on the table like spaghetti, ham, and cheesecake. It is very simple but meaningful, especially after [Super] Typhoon Yutu. Christmas this year is kind of sad because of the disaster but I know that this too shall pass."

—Gloria Sabado,
Chalan Kanoa



"I will spend Christmas with my family and usually we spend it local style and laid back. We will have barbecue and the usual local food. Thankfully, we have power now and Christmas more than ever is about unity, gratitude that everybody is safe in the family, and just love."

—Peaches
Pua, Kagman 3



"This is my last Christmas on island because I leave for college next year, so I will be spending a memorable Christmas with my family. Meals Ready-to-Eat will most probably on our table for Christmas because we still don't have a roof but, even with that, Christmas is all about being grateful no matter what your circumstances are."

—Christian Amorante,
Koblerville

Be the hostess with the mostest this Christmas

By BEA CABRERA
beacabrera@saipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Christmas is here; expect to attend many parties. If it is your turn to host one, do not fret. Preparing to host parties can be a little tedious but the rewards are priceless. Having your family or friends in your home is rewarding, fulfilling, and more intimate. Conversations are natural, jubilant, and there is no time limit. If it is your first time to play host, here are a few tips to get over those neophyte jitters:



"Engage with your guests. Make eye contact, smile and get them to respond to what you are saying. It is okay to have a script to guide you—a script [about] your guest'



Preparing to host parties can be a little tedious but the rewards are priceless.

interests will help the flow—but it is always best to improvise (depending on who your audience is) or be... spontaneous. Since you will be the center of attention, make sure you dress appropriately for it. Project the right demeanor, be interactive so that your audience will participate. Overall, your audience should have the best time at the party so they leave happy, satisfied, and thanking their host for a wonderful experience."

— **Jennifer Miraflores,
San Vicente**

"Serve good food, make sure



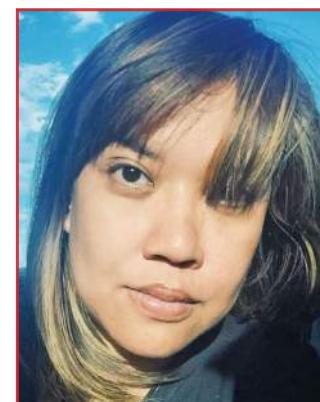
that everything they need is at arm's length, there is no such thing as too much alcohol and serve coffee so you don't have to tell them to leave."

— **Simoun Almoro, Guam**



ing to serve and make it taste good that guests will love."

— **Lilian Lizama,
Chalan Kanoa**



"First, clean the place where the party is going to be held, whether it is inside the house or at the porch, because guests love a pleasing and neat place to hang out in. Clean windows and put up curtains or decorations in conjunction with the theme of your party. Get your tablecloth, plates, and glasses ready so there is enough for everyone. Prepare a good number of table and chairs for your guests so that they will be comfortable. Lastly, plan the food that you are go-

"For sit down, semi-formal lunch or dinner, invest in table setting because it truly sets the mood of the occasion. If you are mixing people, name cards are important. Invest in good wine or alcohol for guests to enjoy."

— **Karen Capino, Guam**

"It is always smart to meal plan ahead of time and this



also helps you make sure you know sensitivities or allergies of your guests and their preferences. Prepare a decent amount of alcoholic beverages and just give guests a little warning not to drink too much, especially the assigned drivers. Decorate the place that is appropriate for the occasion and making a playlist is also good as it sets the mood of the party. Lastly, whatever occasion you may have, having the videoke on is always a crowd pleaser."

— **Clerissa La Madrid,
As Matuus**

'tis the Season

TONY ROMA'S®

T-Bone Steak & Prawns

Certified Angus Beef® T-Bone steak, prawns in a garlic butter sauce, steamed broccoli and a baked potato w/all the dressings.

Compliments: Soup of the day and a mini dessert

17 December - 7 January 2019

For your convenience a 10% service charge will be added to your bill.

\$50

Surf Club RESTAURANT

Prime Rib & Shrimp

Tender, grilled prime rib. Crisp shrimp and steamed vegetables. Served with Chamorro red rice or a baked potato with all the dressings.

17 December - 7 January 2019

For your convenience a 10% service charge will be added to your bill.

\$35

Ristorante Italiano CAPRICCIOSA

Tomato Cream Risotto

Experience the flavor... Risotto topped with mussels, shrimp, red & green bell peppers and crab meat in a coconut milk cream sauce.

17 December - 7 January 2019

For your convenience a 10% service charge will be added to your bill.

\$22

Holiday Specials

Christmas Meals To Go

Package A

- ★ 8-13lbs Turkey w/gravy
- ★ 2lbs Mashed potatoes
- ★ 2lbs Stuffing
- ★ 32oz Savory pumpkin soup
- ★ 1.5lbs Cornbread

\$89.95

Package B

- ★ 25lbs Picnic Ham (Bone-in)
- ★ 2lbs Mashed potatoes
- ★ 2lbs Stuffing
- ★ 32oz Savory pumpkin soup
- ★ 1.5lbs Cornbread

\$109.95

Holiday Pies

- ★ 8" Pumpkin Pie \$15
- ★ 8" Apple Pie \$18
- ★ 8" Pecan Pie \$20

All 3 for \$50

Great Harvest Bread Co.

BAKERY CAFE

Bread. The way it ought to be.

What's on your plate?

By BEA CABRERA
beacabrera@saipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

With Christmas being a time for family reunions and get-togethers, there is a very big chance of blowing one's diet or meal plan.

But that's no reason to fret,

according to Arvin Mettao, Gold's Gym Saipan certified personal trainer. He said one should not fear food intake during the holidays.

"If you are trying to get in shape or maintain the healthy lifestyle you are already in, Christmas should

not set you back. This season only comes once a year, so enjoy and cherish it, and just keep everything in moderation," he added.

Watching your portions is a start. "How do you know how much portion of mashed potato, rice, or protein you can put

on your plate? If the food that you put in your plate is more than you can handle, then that's not good," Mettao said.

"You can only eat so much food in one sitting, so eat strategically and not get crazy with the amount of, say, mashed potato," he added.

Of course, seeing your favorite food on the table can be enticing. Mettao suggests not to binge.

"People tend to binge on

food, especially when there is a lot on the table. Take it easy as binging does more bad than good to your body," he said.

"At a party or dinner setting, always aim for a balanced meal. [Just the] right amount of salad, turkey, or ham. Make the right choices, so you only put the best choices on your plate," he added.

Drinking alcohol is almost

synonymous with any celebration and Christmas is no exception. Mettao concedes that alcohol will always be a part of any celebration, and even more this Christmas, because the holidays and breaks are longer than usual. But, "if you can help it, drink water as it is the safest and healthiest."

"But if you cannot [avoid drinking alcohol], just drink moderately and responsibly."

EXPERIENCE INTERNATIONAL DINING THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Salut.
COZINA SAUDAVEL

Bulalo Steak Sisig: Pork, Chicken, Milkfish, Tuna Flaming Chicken Stuffed Squid

Baked Salmon Roll Tuna and Salmon Sashimi Fresh Lumpia

...and many more.....

Opens: Monday-Sunday —10am-2pm • 4pm-10pm
For orders: 233-3778; 789-8261 | Location: Beach Road, Garapan



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Arvin Mettao, Gold's Gym Saipan certified personal trainer, says that one need not blow one's diet during Christmas.

Avoid gaining weight this season

Studies have found that most of our annual weight gain occurs during the holiday season, when adults typically bulk up by about 1 to 2 lbs. Researchers at the Institute of Applied Health Research at the University of Birmingham in England would like to help us avoid this fattening fate.

"Christmas is likely to tax even the most experienced weight controller," they explained with considerable

sympathy in a report published Monday in the BMJ (formerly known as the British Medical Journal).

That's why they launched the Winter Weight Watch study. Instead of asking people to follow restrictive diets or log extra hours at the gym, they wanted to see if they could minimize the impact of the holiday season by harnessing the power of guilt. (*Los Angeles Times*)

Happy Holidays from Kanoa Resort

Spend this Holiday Season with Kanoa Resort Saipan. Our family is ready to ensure all your holiday wishes come true.

Christmas Eve Dinner
Isla Café Restaurant
Monday December 24th
6:00pm~9:30pm
*\$27.99 per adult / \$14.00 per child (4~11 years old)
Includes free flowing Domestic Beer along with Red, White and Sparkling Wine

Christmas Brunch
Isla Café Restaurant
Tuesday December 25th
11:00am~2:00pm
\$27.99 per adult / \$14.00 per child (4~11 years old)
Includes free flowing Domestic Beer along with Red, White and Sparkling Wine

Christmas BBQ Dinner with Live Cultural Show
Barefoot Beach Bar
Tuesday December 25th
6:00pm~8:30pm
\$35.00 per adult / \$22.00 per child (4~11 years old)
Includes Small Bottle of Wine with each BBQ Dinner Purchase

Kanoa Resort
Saipan

For Reservations please call (670) 234-6601 Ext. 742/743 Leisure•Comfort•Kanoa• Like/Follow us on *Resident discount applies with valid CNMI ID

Get your fill around town



Get a proper dose of the Christmas spirit from the best hotels and restaurants around Saipan.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

By BEA CABRERA
beacabreraasaipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Yutu or not, it still is the most wonderful time of the year—and it's just four days away! And you don't have to be slaving away at the kitchen. Get a proper dose of the Christmas spirit from the best hotels and restaurants around Saipan.

Bring the whole family to the **Hyatt Regency Saipan**. On Dec. 24, have Christmas eve dinner at the **Kili Café & Terrace** for only \$60 per person (\$40 per person for Club at the Hyatt members) and \$30 for children.

Or say "Merry Christmas" in Japanese at the **Miyako** and enjoy your favorite Japanese food for only \$60 per person (\$40 per person for Club at the Hyatt members) and \$30 for children.

Go romantic at **Giovanni's**, which has a holiday special a-la-carte menu available from Dec. 20 onwards.

See your food cooked right in front of you at **Teppanyaki** and get a five-course set for only \$85 per person (\$60 for Club at the Hyatt members), a for-course set for \$60 per person (\$40 for Club at the Hyatt members) and children menu for only \$40 for children.

On Christmas Day itself, brunch is a must at Hyatt Regency Saipan, from 10:30am to 2pm. For only \$60 per person and \$30 for children, enjoy wide array of food at Giovanni's and Kilili Café & Terrace. Continue the celebration with a Christmas Day dinner from 6pm to 9pm at Kili Café & Terrace for only \$60 per person (\$40 per person for Club at the Hyatt members) and \$30 for children.

At **Teppanyaki**, get a five-course set menu for only \$85 per person (only \$60 for Club at the Hyatt members), a four-course set menu for \$60 per person (\$40 for Club at the Hyatt members), and children's menu for only \$40 per child.

Book a table to greet the New Year on Dec. 31, from 6pm to 9pm, at **Kili Café & Terrace** for only \$70 per

person (\$50 for Club at the Hyatt members) and \$35 for children. Miyako awaits for only \$60 per person (\$40 for Club at the Hyatt members) and \$30 for children. Teppanyaki invites you to eat fresh. For only \$85 per person,

FOR RESERVATIONS

Tel: (670) 234-1234 ext. 26

get a five-course set menu (only \$60 for Club at the Hyatt members), a four-course menu for \$60 per person (\$40 for Club at the Hyatt members) and children's menu for only \$40 per child.

Everyone is invited to Hyatt's new year countdown beachfront from 10pm to 2am.

The New Year's Brunch from 10:30am to 2pm never fails. Enjoy one at Kili Café & Terrace for only \$60 per person (\$40 per person for Club at the Hyatt members) and \$30 for children. Miyako is open for brunch for only \$60 per person (\$40 per person for Club at the Hyatt members) and \$30 for children. Say "al dente!" at Giovanni's for only \$60 per person (\$40 per person for Club at the Hyatt members) and \$30 for children. For reservations call (670) 234-1234 ext. 26

This Christmas, **Grandvrio Resort** is brighter than ever. All hotel restaurants such as Restaurant Tropicana, Dol-

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Tel: (670) 237-2527

phin Restaurant, Starlight BBQ, Airi, and Pool Side Bar have Christmas specials and deals. For more information call (670) 237-2527 or email food.beverage@grandvrio-saipan.com.

Celebrate the holidays the Fiesta way at the **Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan**, starting with Christmas brunch on Dec. 25 from 11am to 2pm at World Café restaurant. For only \$42 per adult and \$21 per child (4-11 years old) have the celebration your family deserves., inclusive of beer, red and white wine, sparkling wine and juice. There will be

a live band.

New Year's Eve on Dec. 31 is always special at World Café Restaurant from 6pm to 9pm. For only \$60 per adult and \$30 per child (4-11 years old), enjoy the seafood and roast beef dinner buffet with a ham-carving station and includes red and white wine and American beer.

The New Year Countdown will be celebrated with a cocktail party at Fiesta Resort's dinner show area on Dec. 31, from 10pm to 1am. For only

FOR RESERVATIONS

Tel: (670) 234-6414 Ext. 1548

\$40 per person and child (4-11 years old), there will be red and white wine, American beer, soda and juice, and sparkling wine for toasting.

The celebration goes on at World Café for the New Year's Day Brunch on Jan. 1, from 11am to 2pm for only \$42 per adult and \$21 per child (4-11 years old), inclusive of red, white, and sparkling wine, beer, and juice. There will also be a live band.

For reservations, call (670) 234-6414 Ext. 1548. Special price for CNMI residents apply.

Pacific Islands Club is back starting Dec. 21. On Dec. 23, all restaurants such as The Magellan, The Galley, Buoy Bar, Isla Teppanyaki, and Beach BBQ are open to the public. Enjoy the best sunset in the southern part

FOR RESERVATIONS

Tel: (670) 237-05196 or 285-4945

of Saipan with their Happy Hour and get 50-percent off on food and beverages from 5pm to 7pm at the Seaside Grill. For reservations, call (670) 237-05196 or 285-4945.

Kanoa Resort will make your holiday wishes come true, starting with Christmas eve dinner at Isla Cafe Restaurant on Dec. 24, from 6pm to 9:30pm, for only \$27.99 per adult and \$14 per child ages 4-11 years old. This includes free-flowing domestic beer along with red, white,

Continued on Next Page

Live the Fiesta Way!

Happy Holidays

Christmas Day Brunch

World Café Restaurant

December 25, 2018, Tuesday
11:00am ~ 2:00pm
\$42 per adult & \$21 per child 4 ~ 11 years old
Including Sparkling Wine, Beer, Red & White Wine and Juice
With Live Band

New Year's Eve Special

World Café Restaurant

December 31, 2018, Monday
6:00pm ~ 9:30pm
\$60 per adult & \$30 per child 4 ~ 11 years old
Including Red & White Wine and American Beer

New Year's Countdown

Cocktail Party at Dinner Show Area

December 31, 2018, Monday
10:00pm to 1:00am
\$40 per person for Adult or child 4 ~ 11 years old
Including Chaser, Red & White Wine, American Beer, Soda and Juice
Sparkling Wine for Toasting

New Year's Day Brunch

World Café Restaurant

January 1, 2019, Tuesday
11:00am ~ 2:00pm
\$42 per adult & \$21 per child 4 ~ 11 years old
Including Sparkling Wine, Beer, Red & White Wine and Juice
With Live Band

**Special price for CNMI Residents
For Reservations and Inquiries
Please Call 234-6414 ext. 1548
233-6414 or 483-0462**

FIESTA
Resort & SPA
SAIPAN
A TanHoldings Company

and sparkling wine. Spend Christmas morning and have brunch at Isla Café Restaurant on Dec. 25 from 11am to 2pm for only \$27.99 per adult and \$14 per child ages 4-11 years old. This includes free-flowing domestic beer along with red, white, and

FOR RESERVATIONS

Tel: (670) 234-6601 Ext. 742/743

sparkling wine. At night, get ready to go tropical at the Barefoot Beach Bar, with Christmas BBQ dinner with live cultural show from 6pm to 8:30pm, for only \$35 per

adult and \$22 per child (4-11 years old), inclusive of a small bottle of wine with each BBQ dinner purchase. For reservations, call (670) 234-6601 Ext. 742/743

'Tis the season to have T-bone steak and Prawns at **Tony Roma's**, which is open

from 11am to 10:30pm. From Dec. 17 to Jan. 7, 2019, enjoy certified Angus T-Bone steak, prawns in a garlic butter sauce, steamed broccoli

and baked potato with all the dressings for only \$50. This includes soup-of-the-day and a mini-dessert. For reservations, call (670) 233-9193.

Surf your way this Christmas to the **Surf Club** restaurant in Chalan Kanoa. For only \$35, enjoy the delectable Prime Rib and Shrimp special composed of tender, grilled prime rib, crisp shrimp, and

FOR RESERVATIONS

Tel: (670) 233-9193

6pm to 9pm, followed by a special Christmas eve dinner buffet for only \$42 per adult (\$38 local) \$21 per child (\$19 local) from 6pm to 9pm at **Costa Terrace Restaurant** and a Christmas eve special set menu (set A: \$80 per adult and set B: \$70 per adult) from 6pm to 9pm at **Kevin's the Prime Rib & Seafood**.

On Christmas Day, join their special champagne brunch at Costa Terrace Restaurant from 11am to pm for only \$42 per adult (\$38 local) \$21 per child (\$19 local) and the special set menus (set A: \$80 per adult and set B: \$70 per adult) from 6pm to 10pm at Kevin's The Prime Rib & Seafood.

Greet the new year in their countdown party with firework show at midnight at **Michelle's Beach Bar** on Dec. 31 and dance the year away to the music of a live Polynesian fire dance show by Alana'a and live music. For only \$30, enjoy the open bar from 9pm to 12:30am. Get the chance to win great

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Tel: (670) 322-1234

steamed vegetables served with Chamorro red rice or baked potato with all the yummy dressings. For reservations, call (670) 235-1122.

Go Italian and try **Capricciosa's** Tomato Cream Risotto from Dec. 17 to Jan. 7, 2019 Savor a plate of risotto topped with mussels, shrimp,

FOR RESERVATIONS

Tel: (670) 233-9194

red and green bell peppers and crab meat in a coconut milk cream sauce, all for only \$22. For reservations, call (670) 233-9194

Aqua Resort Club invites you to celebrate the holidays with them with various options that will make your tummy happy. On Dec. 24, enjoy Christmas eve sunset with a barbecue dinner show at **Sunset Beach BBQ** from

raffle prizes, which includes a roundtrip ticket to Seoul, South Korea, a two-night suite accommodation and a large flatscreen TV, and so much more. For more information, call (670) 322-1234.



GRANDVRIOR RESORT SAIPAN

***Breakfast: 7:00am-10:00am * Lunch: 11:30am-2:00pm *Sunday Brunch: 11:00am-2:00pm *Dinner: 5:30pm-9:00pm**

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

RESTAURANT TROPICANA

RESTAURANT DOLPHIN
(10th floor of Crystal Tower in Grandvrio Resort Saipan)

Opening time:
Everyday Lunch: 11:30am-2:00pm (Last Order: 1:30pm)
Dinner 5:30pm-9:00pm (Last Order: 8:30pm)
Osech Set (Osech and Ozouni)
\$19 (Large)

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Sunday Brunch Reg. \$32 Ad/\$16 Ch (Local: \$28 Ad/\$14 Ch)	Christmas Eve Dinner Buffet (December 24, 2018) Reg. \$40 Adult / \$20 Child	Christmas Brunch (December 25, 2018) Reg. \$32 Adult/\$16 Child Christmas Dinner Buffet Reg. \$40 Adult / \$20 Child	New Year Brunch (January 01, 2019) Reg. \$32 Adult/\$16 Child New Year Dinner Buffet Reg. \$40 Adult / \$20 Child
Adult: 12 yrs and up Child: 6-11 yrs Infant: 5 yrs and under • EFFECTIVE: OCTOBER 1, 2018			



Business Hours: 6pm-9pm
Menu: "All you can eat & drink"
Champagne, beers, red & white wine,
soft drinks, olong tea and juices.
Reg. \$43 / Child \$21 (Local \$32 / Child \$16)



Business Hours: 10:00am-6:00pm
Christmas Chocolate Cake
RSVN Due: December 21, 2018
\$21 (6.5") | **\$36 (7")**



Business Hours: 1pm-10pm
Last Order: 9:30pm
Happy Hour: 4pm - 7pm

For reservation or inquiry, please call: 670-237-2527 or E-mail: food.beverage@grandvrio-saipan.com

2018 Christmas Special

Good through January 6, 2019 or while supplies last

Package 1

9-11 lbs. Smoked Ham
2 lbs. Mashed Potatoes
16 oz. Gravy
1 doz. Dinner Rolls
18 oz. Marble Loaf Cake **\$63**

Package 2

18-20 lbs. Smoked Ham
2 lbs. Mashed Potatoes
16 oz. Gravy
1 doz. Dinner Rolls
18 oz. Marble Loaf Cake **\$94**

Package 3

8-9 lbs. Spiral Ham pre - slice
2 lbs. Mashed Potatoes
16 oz. Gravy
1 doz. Dinner Rolls
18 oz. Marble Loaf Cake **\$59**

Package 4

12-14 lbs. Turkey
2 lbs. Stuffing
2 lbs. Mashed Potatoes
16 oz. Gravy
1 doz. Dinner Rolls
18 oz. Marble Loaf Cake **\$69**

Package 5

3-3.5 lbs. 3 Roasted Whole Chicken
2 lbs. Stuffing
2 lbs. Mashed Potatoes
16 oz. Gravy
1 doz. Dinner Rolls
18 oz. Marble Loaf Cake **\$43**

Package 6

13-15.5 lbs. Top Sirloin Roast
2 lbs. Mashed Potatoes
16 oz. Gravy
1 doz. Dinner Rolls
18 oz. Marble Loaf Cake **\$149**

Package 7

16-19 lbs. Prime Rib Roast
2 lbs. Mashed Potatoes
16 oz. Gravy
1 doz. Dinner Rolls
18 oz. Marble Loaf Cake **\$293**

Package 8

16-19 lbs. Pork Leg
4 lbs. Red Rice
18 oz. Marble Loaf Cake **\$75**

COMBO PACKAGE

18-20 lbs. Smoked Ham
20-22 lbs. Turkey
2 lbs. Stuffing
2 lbs. Mashed Potatoes
16 oz. Gravy
1 doz. Dinner Rolls
18 oz. Marble Loaf Cake **\$180**

ALA CARTE

9-11 lbs. Smoked Ham	\$45
18-20 lbs. Smoked Ham	\$79
8-9 lbs. Spiral Ham (pre-slice)	\$41
12-14 lbs. Turkey	\$48
20-22 lbs. Turkey	\$77
16-19 lbs. Pork Leg	\$63
3 Roasted Whole Chicken	\$28
4 lbs. Bisteak	\$35
4 lbs. Pork Fritada	\$35
4 lbs. Red Rice	\$7

SIDES

2 lbs. Mashed Potatoes	\$7
2 lbs. Stuffing	\$7
16 oz. Gravy	\$4
Cranberry Sauce	\$7
1 Dozen Dinner Rolls	\$1.50
18 oz. Marble Loaf Cake	\$7.50
1.5 lbs. Fruit Cake	\$15

NO PHONE ORDER(S) WILL BE ACCEPTED
PLEASE PLACE ALL ORDERS AT LEAST 24 HOURS IN ADVANCE.
CALL 234-1726
CANCELLATION LESS THAN 24 HOURS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

ALL STATED SIZES ARE UNCOOKED WEIGHT. AFTER ROASTING, WEIGHT MAY VARY. UNCOOKED CHICKEN AVERAGE WEIGHT RANGES FROM 3 TO 3.5 LBS.
FOR OTHER ROASTING SERVICES, PLEASE CALL FOR DETAILS. Terms and conditions apply. Contact Herman Modern Bakery for further details

**YOUR FAMILY AND HOME,
Celebrate the Holiday
@HYATT REGENCY SAIPAN**

CHRISTMAS EVE DINNER
24 DECEMBER 2018, 6:00 PM through 9:00PM

Kili Café & Terrace
Price: US\$60 per person, US\$30 for children
US\$40 per person for Club at the Hyatt members

Miyako
Price: US\$60 per person, US\$30 for children
US\$40 per person for Club at the Hyatt members

Giovanni's
Holiday special a-la-carte menu available
from Decembe 20 onwards.

Teppanyaki
Price: US\$85 per person - 5 course set menu
US\$60 for Club at the Hyatt members.
US\$60 per person - 4 course set menu
US\$40 for Club at the Hyatt members.
Children menu for US\$40 for children

CHRISTMAS DAY BRUNCH
25 DECEMBER 2018, 10:30AM through 2:00PM

Giovanni's and Kili Café & Terrace
Price: US\$60 per person, US\$30 for children
US\$40 per person for Club at the Hyatt members

CHRISTMAS DAY DINNER
25 DECEMBER 2018, 6:00PM through 9:00PM

Kili Café & Terrace
Price: US\$60 per person, US\$30 for children
US\$40 per person for Club at the Hyatt members

Teppanyaki
Price: US\$85 per person - 5 course set menu
US\$60 for Club at the Hyatt members.
US\$60 per person - 4 course set menu
US\$40 for Club at the Hyatt members.
Children menu for US\$40 for children

NEW YEAR'S EVE DINNER
31 DECEMBER 2018, 6:00PM through 9:00PM

Kili Café & Terrace
Price: US\$70 per person, US\$35 for children
US\$50 per person for Club at the Hyatt member

Miyako
Price: US\$60 per person, US\$30 for children
US\$40 per person for Club at the Hyatt members

Teppanyaki
Price: US\$85 per person - 5 course set menu
US\$60 for Club at the Hyatt members.
US\$60 per person - 4 course set menu
US\$40 for Club at the Hyatt members.
Children menu for US\$40 for children

NEW YEAR'S DAY BRUNCH
01 JANUARY 2019, 10:30AM through 2:00PM

Kili Café & Terrace
Price: US\$60 per person, US\$30 for children
US\$40 per person for Club at the Hyatt members

Miyako
Price: US\$60 per person, US\$30 for children
US\$40 per person for Club at the Hyatt members

Giovanni's
Price: US\$60 per person, US\$30 for children
US\$40 per person for Club at the Hyatt members

**Join us at our
NEW YEAR'S EVE
COUNTDOWN
Beachfront
10:00PM to 2:00AM**

**RESERVATIONS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED. FOR MORE INFORMATION,
PLEASE CALL +1 670 234 1234 EXT. 26**

By BEA CABRERA
beacabrera@saipan.com
CORRESPONDENT

Christmas Eve dinner celebrated at home but with ready-to-eat meals ordered elsewhere is a viable option for the busy people in our lives. Instead of spending time cooking in the kitchen the whole day, why not just grab meals that already have everything you need?

Aiko's Deli has your back with their set menus that are not only delicious but are ready to join your family's celebration.

For only \$199.95, Jumbo Set A includes smoked ham with glaze (19-22 lbs), turkey with stuffing (22-24 lbs), two custard pies and two loaves of banana bread.

For only \$99.95, Combo Set B includes picnic ham with glaze (5-9 lbs), turkey with stuffing (12-14 lbs), one custard pie and one loaf of banana bread.

For only \$105.95, Set C includes smoked ham with glaze (19-22 lbs), one custard pie and one loaf of banana bread.

For only \$58.95, Set D includes turkey with stuffing and gravy (12-14 lbs), one custard pie and one loaf of banana bread.

For only \$36.95, Set E includes two roasted chicken, one custard pie and one banana bread.

For only \$43.95, Set F includes picnic ham with glaze (5-9 lbs), one custard pie and one banana bread.

For \$275 get a roast pig (50-60 lbs) for the whole family to enjoy. For dessert, enjoy various nine-inch pies and round cakes. All orders must be received two days in advance. For reservations call (670) 234-6406.

Herman's Modern Bakery offers various packages that is light on the budget.

For only \$63, Package 1

Christmas meals to go



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Instead of spending time cooking in the kitchen the whole day, why not just grab meals that already have everything you need?

includes 9-11-lb smoked ham, two lbs mashed potatoes, 16 oz gravy, a dozen dinner rolls, and 18 oz marble loaf cake.

For \$94, Package 2 includes 18-20 lbs smoked ham, two lbs mashed potatoes, 16 oz gravy, a dozen dinner rolls, and 18 oz marble loaf cake.

For only \$59, Package 3 includes 8-9-lb pre-sliced spiral ham, two lbs mashed potatoes, 16 oz gravy, a dozen dinner rolls, and 18 oz marble loaf cake.

For only \$69, Package 4 includes a 12-14-lb turkey, two lbs stuffing, 2 lbs mashed potatoes, 16 oz gravy, a dozen dinner rolls, and 18 oz marble loaf cake.

For only \$43, Package 5 includes three 3-3.5-lb roasted whole chicken, two lbs stuffing two lbs mashed potatoes, 16 oz gravy, a dozen dinner rolls, and 18 oz marble loaf cake.

For only \$63, Package 1

Don't sacrifice your budget for healthy food. Here are 7 affordable ideas

By RASHA ALI
USA TODAY

Trying to save money while eating healthy may seem like a Catch-22, especially when it's the holiday season, but it's easier than you might think.

With planning, by adding more plant-based options and with a few ideas to stock your fridge, you can cut down on your grocery bill and trips to the store.

Neal Barnard, author of "The Vegan Starter Kit" and founder of Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine, says that eating cheap and healthy food is one of the best things you can do as plant-based foods are both healthy and usually the most affordable.

Marisa Moore, a registered dietitian nutritionist in Atlanta and former employee of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, says that once you get comfortable with planning meals and building a regular routine, eating healthy can be affordable.

"Convenience often costs more. Eating healthy doesn't have to be expensive, it just takes a little time and planning," Moore said.

Barnard suggests shopping in bulk and meal planning to avoid wasting food.

We asked Barnard and Moore to help us compile a few affordable healthy food items to stock your fridge.

Note: Although the term healthy differs from person to person and depends on your specific dietary needs, for the purposes of these recommendations, healthy foods are whole foods that are low in unhealthy fats, packed with vitamins and minerals and offer significant nutritional benefits.

Try these budget-friendly foods:

Brown rice

One serving of rice can cost you as little as 9 cents and is rich with B vitamins and other healthy nutrients, Barnard said. Brown rice can be eaten alone, or you can use it as a base for other foods—get creative with some day-old rice by adding some frozen vegetables and an egg for protein, and now you have fried rice.

Whole chicken

A pound of chicken averages \$1.28 a pound, and Moore says you can use this as your



PIXABAY

Trying to save money while eating healthy may seem like a Catch-22, especially when it's the holiday season, but it's easier than you might think.

Beans

A bag of dry beans, pinto, black, kidney or even lentils can give you 11 servings for about \$1.39 or less. Beans are also very versatile and can be used in making salads, tacos, bean burgers and chili. The legumes are filled with protein and are full of fiber Barnard says.

Oats

You can get 13 servings of oats for about \$2.50. Oatmeal doesn't just have to be a breakfast food either; you can make sweet and savory oats. Barnard suggests getting creative by adding different fruits or other toppings and spices.

Fruits and vegetables

Both Moore and Barnard suggest buying fruit and vegetables that are in season, as they will be cheaper than those that aren't. Picking up frozen fruits and veggies is also a great idea and just as healthy as the nonfrozen kind. Fruits and veggies can be eaten as a snack or added into meals such as oatmeal or burritos to spice them up.

Healthy Living

Healthy holidays

Holiday party buffets do not have to be high-calorie and high-fat.

Lighten up the table

• Serve vegetable and fruit trays

Colorful and tasty favorites include broccoli and cauliflower florets, cucumber slices, baby carrots, cherry tomatoes, sliced peppers, melon balls, orange slices, pineapple cubes

• Use dips made with hummus, low-fat yogurt, light cream cheese

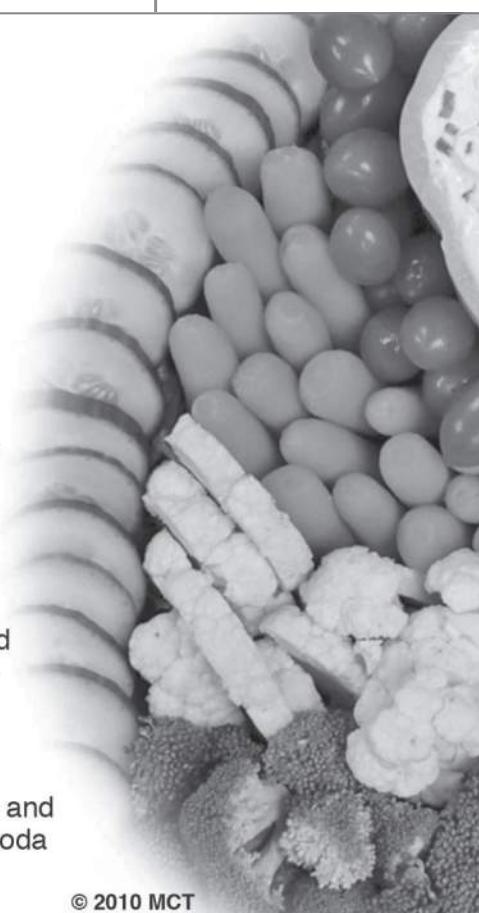
• Serve lean meats and seafood

Try thinly sliced turkey breast, ham and roast beef; broiled salmon and shrimp

• Use whole grain crackers, chips; bite-size servings of cookies, cakes

• Add pizazz with bowls of mixed nuts and olives, wine spritzers made with club soda

Source: WebMD
Graphic: Pat Carr



© 2010 MCT

en dinner rolls, and 18 oz marble loaf cake.

For only \$149, Package 6 includes 13-15.5 lbs top Sirloin roast, two lbs mashed potatoes, 16 oz gravy, a dozen dinner rolls, and 18 oz marble loaf cake.

For only \$293, Package 7 includes 16-19-lb prime rib roast, two lbs mashed potatoes, 16 oz gravy, a dozen dinner rolls, and 18 oz marble loaf cake.

For only \$75, Package 8 includes 16-19-lb pork leg, four lbs red rice, and 18 oz marble loaf cake.

For only \$180, the Combo Package includes an 18-20-lb smoked ham, a 20-22-lb turkey, two lbs stuffing, two lbs mashed potatoes, 16 oz gravy, a dozen dinner rolls, and 18 oz marble loaf cake.

Visit Herman's and place your orders at least 24 hours in advance in person as no phone orders will be accepted. For more information, call (670) 234-1726.

FOA hosts free movie night

The Friends of the Arts presents another enjoyable night at the movies for the entire family. FOA will be hosting an outdoor movie special, for the second time this season, today, Dec. 21, for the movie *Arthur Christmas*, a 2011 animated family comedy.

The movie purports to reveal the incredible, never-before seen answer to every child's question: "So how does Santa deliver all those presents in one night?"

The Friends of the Arts invites the community to come to the Saipan Country Club green and bring chairs or blankets, relax, and enjoy a night at the movies. Viewers can bring their own food and drinks and have a picnic, or purchase snacks and drinks from the Marianas High School Theater Club. The movie lasts two hours, with preceding

cartoons, and is rated PG.

This production will be held on just one night, Dec. 21, at 6:30pm. Parking will be at the Saipan Vegas Club and Resort on Middle Road just south of McDonald's, with a short walk around the back-left of the building up to the green. Saipan Country Club staff will be there to give directions and there will be a golf cart to give rides to anyone who might have a problem with the walk. There will be a tent in case of rain. Do not take the old road at the old SCC sign. You cannot drive to the movie site. You must park at Saipan Vegas.

There is no entrance fee for this event.

The Friends of the Arts thanks the Saipan Country Club, Bridge Capital CNMI, the Northern Marianas College, and Marianas High School. (PR)

FEMA and SBA centers holiday hours

Christmas holiday hours for the Federal Emergency Management Agency and U.S. Small Business Administration assistance are as follows:

FEMA Disaster Recovery Center, Saipan

■ Open Monday, Dec. 24, 2018
Closed Tuesday, Dec. 25, 2018

SBA Disaster Loan Outreach Center, Tinian

■ Open Monday, Dec. 24, 2018

■ Closed Monday, Dec. 24, 2018 and Tuesday, Dec. 25, 2018

SBA Business Recovery Center, Saipan

■ Closed Monday, Dec. 24, 2018, and Tuesday, Dec. 25, 2018

Normal business hours will resume on Wednesday, Dec. 26, 2018. (PR)



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Caller Box 10007, 1356 Mednilla Ave. Capitol Hill, Saipan MP 96950

Tel. (670) 664-3196/322-0996 or 664-3190 • Fax: (670) 664-3197

Website: www.marianaslabor.net



NOTICE TO EMPLOYERS

In accordance with § 80-20.1 Employment Rules and Regulations of the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code (NMIAIC), the CNMI Department of Labor (DOL) mandates compliance of the following for all eligible private sector employers. Failure or refusal to comply is cause for the CNMI DOL to issue a Notice of Violation to the employer may also result in fines and other sanctions following a due process hearing in the Administrative Hearing Office.

1. Post Job Vacancy Announcement on CNMI DOL website

An employer who intends to employ a foreign national worker, transitional worker, or nonimmigrant alien on a full-time basis (under any new employment arrangement, any renewal of any existing employment arrangement, or any transfer) must post a job vacancy announcement on the Department's website at www.marianaslabor.net. NMIAIC § 80-20.1-225(a). No waiver is available for the job vacancy announcement requirement. NMIAIC § 80-20.1-225(e).

2. Submit Total Workforce Listings each quarter

Each business employer shall report quarterly, as of the last day of the calendar quarter and within the time limits for filing the business gross receipts tax return, the number and classification of employees for whom wages were paid during the quarter. NMIAIC § 80-20.1-505(b). The Department requires employers to present this information in a document called "Total Workforce Listing."

The Total Workforce Listing is due each quarter and on the last day of the month following the quarter:

1 st Quarter (January - March).....	due on April 30
2 nd Quarter (April - June).....	due on July 31
3 rd Quarter (July - September).....	due on October 31
4 th Quarter (October - December).....	due on January 31, 2019

Attention: The total Workforce Listing for 4th Quarter 2018 is due on January 31, 2019. Submissions must be submitted to the Department of Labor Office temporarily located on the second (2F) floor of the Joeten Dandan Building until further notice. Telephone Numbers 234-3751 and 788-4183.

3. Adhere to Workforce Participation Minimum Percentage requirement

Any employer, unless exempt, who employs workers on a full-time basis must certify that 30% or more of its full-time employees are U.S. citizens, U.S. permanent residents, and/or CNMI permanent residents. 3 CMC § 4525 and NMIAIC § 80-20.1-210(c)(3). Failure to maintain a minimum percentage of 30% will result in a Notice of Violation filed against the employer.

4. Submit new or updated Workforce Plan

All employers, unless exempt, who employ nonimmigrant alien workers, must submit a new or updated Workforce Plan every twelve months. A workforce plan shall identify specific positions currently occupied by nonimmigrant aliens. The plan shall include a timetable for accomplishing the replacement of nonimmigrant aliens with qualified citizens, CNMI permanent residents, and U.S. permanent residents until the workforce participation objective is met. NMIAIC § 80-20.1-510(b-c).

A workforce plan has as its objective an increase in the percentage of citizens, U.S. permanent residents, and CNMI permanent residents and the immediate relatives of citizens, U.S. permanent residents and CNMI permanent residents in the workforce of the employer. NMIAIC § 80-20.1-510(a). The Workforce Plan form is available on the CNMI DOL website under Forms & Publications at www.marianaslabor.net.

Holiday Season 2018

Drunk Driving Prevention Campaign

November 22 - December 31, 2018

Buzzed Driving is Drunk Driving. Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk.

CNMI Department of Public Safety.
For more information call:
SAIPAN 664-9001/9002/9131 | TINIAN 433-9222/2041 | ROTA 532-9433/9530
www.dps.gov.mp

DRIVE SOBER OR GET PULLED OVER



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
 P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
 Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.net



REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

This is to inform all Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC)-approved Contractors (including Tinian and Rota contractors) that we are currently updating our Approved Contractor Listing for calendar year 2019. In order for NMHC to extend your company's inclusion on our listing for another year, you must submit the documentations listed below. Those companies that are not on our list of approved contractors but wish to be included are likewise encouraged to submit the following:

1. Valid CNMI Business License
2. Current Financial Statements (certified by the principle executive officer and principle financial officer)
3. 2 Years Business Gross Revenue (BGR) Tax Returns
4. 2 Years Corporate Income Tax Returns (1120)
5. Clearance Letter from the Department of Labor
6. Certificate of Compliance from the Revenue & Taxation Office
7. Workmen's Compensation Policy
8. Name of Insurance Company(ies) Currently Dealing With
9. A list of on-going/completed projects showing name of project, start and completion dates, and contract amounts
10. At least three (3) reference letters from owners of the completed projects
11. List of vendors and suppliers and at least three reference letters from them (CONSTRUCTION QUARRY, READY-MIX CEMENT & HARDWARE STORES)
12. Company background
13. Articles of Incorporation & Company By-Laws, if applicable
14. Annual Report (Registrar of Corporations)
15. Registration on the System for Award Management (SAM) official U.S. Government website and provide DUNS (number).

NMHC encourages Minority and Women-Owned Businesses (MBE/WBE) to participate in this Request for Qualifications and that they will be afforded full opportunity to participate and will not be discriminated against on grounds of race, color, national origin, political affiliation, creed, sex, religion, age, familial status, or disability status.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

/S JESSE S. PALACIOS
 CORPORATE DIRECTOR

"NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency"



COMMONWEALTH JUDICIARY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
 Guma' Hustisia / Iimwal Aweewe / House of Justice
 P.O. Box 502165 • Saipan, MP 96950
 Telephone (670) 236-9700/9800 • Facsimile: (670) 236-9702
 Website: www.justice.gov.mp

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Judiciary is seeking a highly motivated individual for the position of:

ACCOUNTANT I
 Announcement # JVA19-005

DUTIES: The successful candidate will work under the general supervision of the Presiding Judge and direct supervision of the Director of Courts or his/her designee on Saipan which involves work in the maintenance and examination of accounting records and procedures and in the preparation of analysis of financial reports. The duties of this position include, but are not limited to the following:

- Maintain various ledgers, registers, journals and other records required in fiscal operations;
- Furnishes budgetary data to higher-level accountants for budget analysis;
- Prepares financial statements and reports for review by supervisor and operating personnel;
- Maintains records necessary for the determination and reporting of federal expenditures and fund balances;
- Takes trial balances and makes adjusting and closing entries;
- Verifies and analyses financial data and prepares financial statements and reports;
- Participates in the collection, compilation, classifications and evaluation of fiscal data;
- Maintains budgetary accounts and financial records for an office;
- Maintains control accounts so that the status of funds may be determined;
- Post entries to these accounts from supporting documents;
- Post and balances journals and ledgers and reconciles accounts;
- Coordinates work of the clerical staff in an office;
- Assists in preparing budget estimates by gathering pertinent information from various book of accounts;
- Assigns and reviews the work of others for accuracy and completeness;
- Explains departmental procedures to other employees and the public; and
- Performs other related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS: Candidate must have a high school diploma or equivalent and should have a combination equivalent to graduation from college or university with a BA major in accounting or related field, a minimum of two (2) years experience in accounting work. Successful candidate must provide current police and traffic clearances and proof of eligibility to work in the CNMI. Applicants given a conditional offer of employment with the CNMI Judiciary will be required to submit to urinalysis to screen for the illegal use of drugs prior to employment.

COMPENSATION AND TENURE: This position is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the Presiding Judge. The salary range will be \$20,000.00 - \$21,000.00 annually.

INTERESTED PERSONS may obtain application form at the Marianas Business Plaza, Suite 212 on the second floor or Window #3 at the front of the Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice in Susupe, or at the Superior Court offices on Kottenham and Centron Hustisia in Rota. Completed applications, cover letter, and three references should be submitted to:

Human Resources
 Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice
 P.O. Box 502165
 Saipan, MP 96950
 Tel. (670) 236-9818
 Fax. (670) 236-9702
 hr.judiciary@justice.gov.mp

This job announcement will remain open until filled and can be seen and a printable copy of the application downloaded at <http://www.justice.gov.mp>.

THE CNMI JUDICIARY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.

Lions clubs band together as 'Simbang Gabi' donors

All six Lions Clubs that make up the Lions Club International District 4, Region 2 have banded together as sponsors of the 41st annual *Simbang Gabi* (Dawn Mass) at the Mt. Carmel Cathedral.

According to Lions Club International District 4, Region 2 chair Annamae Adaza, the Lions sponsored the second night of the *Simbang Gabi*.

Adaza added the *Simbang Gabi* is an annual activity that the entire club participates in and raises funds for charity.

"The organizer is the Saipan *Simbang Gabi* Group, with nine coordinators... the second day was assigned to the Lions...the role of the coordinators are to look for donors who will donate [cash] and all collections will be used for Saipan *Simbang Gabi* Group projects," said Adaza.

In the previous year, the donations were used to aid schools in the Philippines. This year, all donations will be used to aid those affected by Super Typhoon Yutu.

The LCI District 204, Region 2 is composed of six clubs with more than 30 members per club. The six Lions Clubs are Saipan Fil-Ameri-

can Lions Club, Saipan Unity Lions Club, Saipan Marianas Lions Club, Saipan Alliance Lions Club, Saipan Centennial Lions Club, and Saipan

Natibu Lions Club.

Adaza said that all Lions Clubs are autonomous but can work together on certain projects. (*Kimberly A. Bautista*)



COURTESY CALL

Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang, left, poses with Australian Embassy for Pohnpei deputy head of mission Eliza Woolcock during her courtesy visit last Wednesday. Apatang urged Woolcock to include Saipan in tourism promotions for Guam and the Federated States of Micronesia in Australia.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

CUC-RFP-18-032



Supply, Installation and Commissioning of a 1.5 MW Trailer Mounted Diesel Generating Set with Enclosure for the CUC Power Plant No. 3, Saipan, CNMI

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms for the Supply, Installation and Commissioning of a 1.5 Mega Watt Trailer Mounted Diesel Generating Set with Enclosure for the CUC Power Plant No. 3 Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a certificate evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one RFP package set. The RFP package consisting of the specifications and plans for the project, will be provided in a CD or emailed to the registered email ID. Prospective Proposers must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

One (1) original and four (4) hard copies, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format or USB Drive, must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-18-032, Supply, Installation and Commissioning of a 1.5 MW Trailer Mounted Diesel Generating Set with Enclosure for the CUC Power Plant No. 3, Saipan, CNMI" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than January 3, 2019 at 10:00 AM (ChST). Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

A *Proposal Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total proposal price must accompany the proposals. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or proposal bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful Proposer. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety.

Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Proposers are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discuss and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors. All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page: <https://marianaslabor.net/>. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on December 14, 2018 to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to yvonne.cabral@cucgov.org, CUC-Power Generation Manager, Richard Cano via email address richard.cano@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan, CUC Purchasing Assistant via email address christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY CAMACHO
 Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
 Purchasing Administrator

More donations from Japan for Yutu recovery

More donations are pouring in from Japan to aid the Marianas community in its recovery from Super Typhoon Yutu, which hit the islands in October 2018.

The Tokyo-Koenji Awaodori Association, named as an honorary Marianas tourism ambassador in 2017, recently collected nearly \$4,000 for relief efforts. The donation was personally delivered by Saipan Awaodori leader Misako Kamata to the Marianas Visitors Authority office on Saipan on Dec. 13, 2018.

"When Mr. Yukihiro Iwami and the Tokyo-Koenji Awaodori Association learned of the devastating typhoon that happened, they felt so bad for the people of CNMI," said Kamata in an email to MVA

managing director Christopher A. Concepcion. "Feeling honored by the MVA's designation as tourism ambassadors, they felt a sense of seriousness to help. Even with this unfortunate incident, the free-spirited and happy people of the CNMI still manage to smile and look at the brighter side of life and will overcome these difficulties soon."

On Nov. 10 and 24, the association set up donation boxes at Autumn Awaodori Festivals in Tokyo and appealed to members and the audience for help, collecting \$3,800 in donations.

"We are very grateful to the Tokyo-Koenji Awaodori Association for their support to our recovery as a community," said Concepcion in

receiving the donation. "This funding will go to various charitable organizations in the Marianas who are helping victims of Yutu on Tinian and Saipan."

Several other donations from companies and individuals in Japan have been sent to the Marianas via the MVA, including ¥3,000,000 from Skymark Airlines, ¥1,000,000 from Access Inc., and \$1,000 from honorary Marianas tourism ambassador and former Japan consul to the Commonwealth Toshio Matsumura.

To mark the recovery of the islands after the typhoon, MVA and the community will host the #MarianasSTRONG Yearend Celebration on Dec. 29, 2018, from 5pm to 10pm at the Paseo de Marianas pe-



Misayo Kamata, fourth from right, presents a \$3,800 donation for typhoon recovery aid from the Tokyo Koenji Awaodori Association to the Marianas Visitors Authority on Dec. 13, 2018. From left, MVA marketing specialist Brenda Repeki, media marketing specialist Rizza Janairo, Japan in-country manager Takashi Ichikura, acting marketing manager Thomas Kim, MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion, Kamata, deputy managing director Judy Torres, marketing specialist Hillary Agulto, and marketing specialist Laura Hsiao.

MVA

destrian mall in Garapan. The festivities will include live entertainment, food sales, and free children's games. The

Yutu 5K Holiday Fun Run will be held at 5pm at the same location. Donations will be accepted for continued typhoon

recovery efforts. For more information, visit The Marianas Calendar at www.mymarianass.com. (MVA)

Mobil Oil Mariana Islands, Inc. (Mobil) is a subsidiary of Exxon Mobil Corporation – the world's largest publicly traded international oil and gas company, which holds an industry-leading inventory of resources and is one of the world's largest integrated refiners, marketers of petroleum products and chemical manufacturers. This is your opportunity to join this dynamic company and become part of the team that thrives in a fast-paced, controls-oriented environment as:

Aviation Refueller

Job Description:

Responsible for assisting the Aviation Depot Supervisor in the safe and proper handling, storage and movement of aviation products at the airport as well as dispensing aviation fuel into aircraft.

Location:

▪ Saipan Aviation Depot, Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands

Job Duties:

- Support supply chain management and handling of aviation products in accordance with the company's systems, controls and procedures as well as government standards.
- Manage delivery and dispensing of clean, dry and on-specification fuel to aircraft safety and efficiently.
- Steward facility contractor's performance and execution of required deliverables.
- Support maintenance and repair work on company assets as required.
- Monitor stock levels of required aviation materials and manage stock replenishment in a timely manner.
- Perform regular tests and checks on fuels and equipment and accurate and up-to-date records of all findings.

Job Requirements:

- Experience in safe petroleum handling, storage and movement or related field
- At least a high school diploma or equivalent
- Understanding of aviation and federal regulations as applicable to petroleum handling, storage and distribution
- Candidates with prior work experience in aviation operations and general maintenance and repair activities will be preferred
- Willing and able to work both day and night shifts and occasionally work extended hours, and/or on weekends and public holidays
- Good interpersonal skills, ability to communicate effectively both verbally and in writing

If you are interested in and/or meet the qualifications for this position, please submit your resume on or before December 31, 2018 to the following:

Attention to:
Upper Pacific Islands Aviation Operations
Mobil Oil Mariana Islands, Inc.
P.O. Box 500367 CK, Saipan, MP 96950
Fax: (670) 234-5126
Correspondence Email: maria.kemp@exxonmobil.com

Mobil is an Equal Opportunity Employer

All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, protected veteran or disability status.

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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 19-013

Opening Date: Friday, December 7, 2018
Closing Date: Until filled

Drinking Water and Wastewater Division Manager ("DM")

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation ("CUC") is seeking a qualified Drinking Water and Wastewater Division Manager ("DM"). CUC is a public utility corporation, operating on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands ("CNMI") — a United States territory in the northwestern Pacific Ocean.

The CNMI is a tropical paradise of fourteen islands. In the CNMI you can escape to a place of magnificent beaches and crystal clear aqua waters, and rich history. Saipan offers year-round outdoor activities, world class diving and golfing, international shopping, a range of ethnic restaurants and a cacophony of indigenous and international cultures.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND OPPORTUNITY OFFERED:

Reporting directly to CUC's Deputy Executive Director or designee, the "DM" fills a position required by the Stipulated Order ("SO") of the United States of America vs. the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands, Civil Case No. CV 08-051.

- The incumbent of this position is under the direct supervision of the Deputy Executive Director (which may also be known as the Deputy Director for Water and Wastewater).
- Manages and oversees the CUC Drinking Water and Wastewater Division.
- Supervises employees in direct charge of drinking water systems' production, treatment, and distribution, and wastewater collection and treatment plants utilizing activated sludge secondary treatment processes.
- Responsible for the effective and efficient utilization of equipment, materials, and personnel to complete water and wastewater maintenance programs in a timely and cost effective manner.
- Manages, leads, motivates, and develops staff towards attaining needed training, skills, and certifications.
- Plays significant role in the management of drinking water and wastewater systems during periods of planning, design, and construction; user fee system development.
- Prepares and maintains various records and reports for the division, including: purchase orders and invoices, monthly status reports, maintenance records, budget status, etc.
- Other duties as required or assigned.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

- An equivalent to a four year college degree or other field related to work with large-scale utilities and may substitute for one year of the required experience;
- Five years of proven, specialized experience as a manager in direct charge of drinking water systems' production, treatment, and distribution, and wastewater collection and treatment plants utilizing activated sludge secondary treatment processes.
- Skills: Proven manager with communication skills dealing with the public, operations staff and senior management; Demonstrated ability to lead, motivate, and develop staff.
- Experience: Experience with managing drinking water and wastewater systems during periods of planning, design, and construction; Experience with drinking water and wastewater systems; user fee system development; staff training and development; and federal drinking water and wastewater requirements.
- Knowledge: Thorough knowledge of the operating principles and maintenance requirements of at least three (3) million gallons per day ("mgd") of an activated sludge wastewater treatment plant including primary and secondary treatment processes, oxygen production, and sludge digestion and dewatering.
- Preferred Requirements:
 - Bachelor's degree in Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Civil Engineering, Public Administration, or a degree related to the position.
 - Current (unexpired) level 3 certifications from a U.S. state, U.S. territory, U.S. commonwealth, or the District of Columbia in water treatment, and water distribution.
 - Current (unexpired) level 2 certifications from a U.S. state, U.S. territory, U.S. commonwealth, or the District of Columbia in wastewater treatment, and wastewater distribution.

LOCATION: SAIPAN, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.

SALARY INFORMATION:

Based on specialized experience as a water and wastewater utility manager in a U.S. state, U.S. territory, U.S. commonwealth, and/or the District of Columbia. Base salary starts at \$100,000. Also, based on educational achievement and specific (unexpired) certifications stated in this ad as preferred requirements.

POSITION: One (1).

CONTRACT: Two-year; subject to renewal.

RELOCATION EXPENSES:

If hired from outside the CNMI, relocation expenses are negotiable; but they are not to exceed \$5,000.00 for moving to Saipan and not to exceed \$5,000.00 for moving away from Saipan. Receipts will be required for justification. Other conditions may be applicable.

SUBMISSION PROCESS:

To apply, please submit a resume, cover letter, a list of references, and a CUC Employment Application by one of the following means:

1. United States Postal Service, First Class Mail or Priority Mail*: Human Resource Office
Commonwealth Utilities Corporation P.O. Box 501220
Saipan, MP 96950-1220 USA

*If you choose to submit via USPS, please still also fax or email or drop off your package.

2. Fax: 670-235-5131
3. Email: employment.applications@cucgov.org
4. Drop Off:
Drop off your package at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the CUC Tinian or Rota Administration Office.

POLICIES:

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation is an equal opportunity provider and employer and will not discriminate or tolerate discrimination against any employee or applicant in any manner prohibited by law.
It is also the policy of CUC to achieve a drug-free workplace and persons selected for employment will be required to pass a drug test which screens for illegal drug use prior to final appointment.

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer
P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950-1220 U.S.A. • Tel. Nos. (670) 235-7025 to 32 Fax (670) 235-5131

Nation

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Shaima Swileh simply wants to give her son one more kiss before he dies.

The Yemeni woman is about to get her wish after winning a fight for a waiver from the Trump administration's travel ban, allowing her to fly to California where her 2-year-old son, Abdullah, is on life support.

The State Department granted Swileh the waiver Tuesday after lawyers with the Council on American-Islamic Relations sued this week, ending her family's yearlong battle. Swileh is planning to fly to San Francisco on Wednesday to see Abdullah at UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital in Oakland.

"This will allow us to mourn with dignity," the boy's father, Ali Hassan, said in a statement provided by the council's Sacramento chapter.

Hassan, who is a U.S. citizen and lives in Stockton, brought Abdullah to California in the fall to get treatment for a genetic brain disorder.

"My wife is calling me every day wanting to kiss and hold her son for the one last time," Hassan said, choking up as he made a public plea at a news conference Monday, a day before the government granted the visa.

The couple moved to Egypt after marrying in war-torn Yemen in 2016 and had been trying to get a visa for Swileh since 2017 so the family could move to California. Citizens from Yemen and four other mostly Muslim countries, along with North Korea and

Trump.

When the boy's health worsened, Hassan went ahead to California in October to get their son

help. As the couple fought for a waiver, doctors put Abdullah on life support.

"I am emailing them, cry-

Yemeni mom lands in US



ing, and telling them that my son is dying," Hassan said in an interview with The Sacramento Bee newspaper.

He started losing hope and was considering pulling his son off life support to end his suffering. But then a hospital social worker reached out to the Council on American-Islamic Relations, which sued Monday, said Basim Elkarras, executive director of the group in Sacramento.

Swileh lost months with her child over what amounted to unnecessary delays and red tape, Elkarras said.

State Department spokesman Robert Palladino called it "a very sad case, and our thoughts go out to this family at this time, at this trying time."

He said he could not comment on the family's situation but that in general cases are handled individually, and U.S. officials try to facilitate legitimate travel to the United States while protecting national security.

"These are not easy questions," he said. "We've got a lot of foreign service officers

» Heads to see dying son

deployed all over the world that are making these decisions on a daily basis, and they are trying very hard to do the right thing at all times."

Immigration attorneys estimate tens of thousands of people have been affected by what they call blanket denials of visa applications under Trump's travel ban, which the U.S. Supreme Court upheld in a 5-4 ruling in June.

The waiver provision allows a case-by-case exemption for people who can show entry to the U.S. is in the national interest, is needed to prevent undue hardship and would not pose a security risk.

But a lawsuit filed in San Francisco says the administration is not honoring the waiver provision. The 36 plaintiffs include people who have had waiver applications denied or stalled despite chronic medical conditions, prolonged family separations or significant business interests.

"We hope this case makes the administration realize the waiver process is not working," Elkarras said. "Thousands of families have been split apart, including families who have loved ones who are ill and are not able to see them in their final hours. I'm sure there are more cases like this."

ACROSS THE NATION

Parents punished girl by waterboarding 3 times, charges say

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A Utah couple used waterboarding as punishment for their 9-year-old daughter after she got out of bed to get a cup of water, prosecutors said in charges filed Wednesday.

They took her into a bathroom with the cup, then bound her hands, covered her face with a towel and poured water on it for several minutes, leaving her unable to breathe. The girl's stepmother told her at one point she "could die from this happening," charges state. The child told police that the waterboarding had happened three times as punishment for things like eating frosting. Her father and stepmother also use belts and hangers to hit her, and sometimes have her do workouts like squats or push-ups as punishment, she told officers who were called to a hospital on Dec. 3. Police found injuries consistent with tied hands as well as other scratches and bruises, charges say. Two of the couple's other children also said they use things like cellphone charging cords and shoes to hit them. The father "adamantly denied" using any objects as punishment, though he said he sometimes uses an

open hand to spank their bottoms. He said the girl had gotten a drink after bedtime and they tried to put her in time-out but she wouldn't stay there. So they brought her to the hospital because they "needed help."

Man charged after train deaths of 2 Chicago police officers

CHICAGO (AP) — A man is facing two felony weapons charges in connection with the deaths of two Chicago police officers who were struck and killed by a commuter train while they were chasing him. Chicago police said Wednesday that 24-year-old Edward Brown of Chicago is charged with reckless discharge of a firearm-endangerment and aggravated unlawful use of a weapon-loaded. He's due in bond court Thursday. Police have said Brown was being pursued by Officers Eduardo Marmolejo and Conrad Gary on the far South Side after ShotSpotter technology detected gunshots in the area. Police say the officers were aware of one train in the area but may not have heard or seen another train coming up behind them. Police say Brown was taken into custody by other officers, and a gun was recovered.



DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

P. O. Box 501304, Saipan MP 96950, Gualo Rai Center, Saipan
TEL. NO. 664-8300 • FAX NO. 664-8315



NOTICE OF APPLICATION As of December 21, 2018

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE DCRM OFFICE:

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
1. Chen Mei Jun	12/14/2018 SPI-2019-X-008	Land clearing for temporary stockpiling	Tanapag, Saipan	Land clearing	Approved, 12/17/2018*
2. Ignacia T. Saures	12/18/2018 SW-2019-X-009	Land clearing	Chalan Laulau, Saipan	Land clearing	Under Review*
3. New Century Hotel, LLC	10/02/2018 SMS-2019-X-001	Hotel	Tanapag, Saipan	Major Siting	Rescheduled for 12/27/2018
4. USA Fanter Corp. Ltd.	10/18/2018 SMS-2019-X-003	Hotel	Garapan, Saipan	Major Siting	Rescheduled for 12/27/2018

NMICAC §15-10-210 of the CRM Rules and Regulations requires all permit applications to be published in a newspaper for general circulation within the CNMI within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the DCRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the DCRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APCs) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local DCRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a DCRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the DCRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the DCRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the CRM Regulations.

World

Trump pulling all US troops from Syria, declaring IS defeat

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump is pulling all 2,000 U.S. troops out of Syria, officials announced Wednesday as the president suddenly declared victory over the Islamic State, contradicting his own experts' assessments and sparking surprise and outrage from his party's lawmakers who called his action rash and dangerous.

The U.S. began airstrikes in Syria in 2014, and ground troops moved in the following year to battle the Islamic State, or ISIS, and train Syrian rebels in a country torn apart by civil war. Trump abruptly declared their mission accomplished in a tweet.

"We have defeated ISIS in Syria, my only reason for being there during the Trump Presidency," he said as Vice President Mike Pence met with top leaders at the Pentagon. U.S. officials said many details of the troop withdrawal had not yet been finalized, but they expect American forces to be out by mid-January.

UN General Assembly endorses global migration accord

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—The U.N. General Assembly endorsed a sweeping accord to ensure safe and orderly migration Wednesday over opposition from five countries, including the United States and Hungary.

The Global Compact for Migration, the first international document dealing with the issue, is not legally binding. But the escalating debate over people leaving their home countries for new ones has sparked increasing opposition and reservations among the U.N.'s 193 member states.

The General Assembly resolution endorsing the compact was approved by a vote of 152-5, with Israel, the Czech Republic and Poland also voting "no" and 12 countries abstaining. The vote in favor of the resolution was lower than the 164 countries that approved the agreement by acclamation at a conference in Marrakech, Morocco, earlier this month.

The compact represents a U.N.-led effort to give migrants seeking economic opportunity a chance to find it and to have authorities crack down on the often dangerous and illegal movements of people across borders that have turned human smuggling into a worldwide industry.

U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres welcomed the resolution's adoption, saying the compact provides a platform for international co-

Later Wednesday, Trump posted a video on Twitter in which he said is "heart-breaking" to have to write letters and make calls to the loved ones of those killed in battle. "Now it's time for our troops to come back home," he said.

A senior administration official, speaking to reporters on condition of anonymity, said Trump made the decision based on his belief that U.S. troops have no role in Syria beyond combatting Islamic State, whose fighters are now believed to hold about 1 percent of the territory they did at the peak of their power.

The president informed Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan of his decision in a telephone call, the official said. Turkey has recently warned that it would launch combat operations across its southern border into northeastern Syria against Kurdish forces who have been allied with the U.S. in the fight against the Islamic State.

Trump's declaration of victory was far from unanimous, and officials said U.S. defense and military leaders were trying to dissuade him from ordering the withdrawal right up until the last minute. His decision immediately triggered demands from Congress—including leading Republicans—for more information and a formal briefing on the matter. Sen. Lindsay Graham of South Carolina, just returned from Afghanistan, said he was meeting with Defense Secretary Jim Mattis late in the day.

Graham, typically a Trump backer, said he was "blindsided" by the report and called the decision "a disaster in the making." He said, "The biggest winners in this are ISIS and Iran."

The decision will fulfill Trump's long-stated goal of bringing troops home from Syria, but military leaders have pushed back for months, arguing that the IS group re-

mains a threat and could regroup in Syria's long-running civil war. U.S. policy has been to keep troops in place until

the extremists are eradicated.

The senior administration official said American forces would still work with allies to

fight the Islamic State or other extremists in the country but gave no details on what that might entail.

US NKorea envoy to visit SKorea amid uncertainty over talks

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Trump administration's special envoy for North Korea is heading to South Korea this week amid growing uncertainty over the future of direct talks between Washington and Pyongyang, the State Department said Tuesday.

Stephen Biegun will visit Seoul on Wednesday and Thursday for meetings with senior South Korean officials on the status of negotiations with the North over getting rid of its nuclear weapons, the department said in a brief statement. It said the discussions would focus "on our shared objective of the final, fully verified denuclearization" of North Korea as well as joint North-South cooperation projects that might help achieve that goal.

The statement gave no indication that Biegun would travel anywhere other than South Korea or meet with offi-

cials from North Korea, which has not yet officially named a counterpart for him.

Talks between the U.S. and North Korea have been stalled for months with the two sides at an impasse over next steps following the historic June summit between President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and several trips to Pyongyang by Secretary of State Mike Pompeo. Despite no signs of tangible progress, the U.S. insists that plans for a second Trump-Kim summit is still in the works for early next year.

The U.S. wants the North to provide a detailed accounting of facilities that would be inspected and dismantled under a deal while the North is insisting that sanctions be lifted first. In the meantime, several reports from private analysts have accused the North of continuing nuclear and missile development, citing details from

commercial satellite imagery.

On Monday, North Korea reacted angrily to a U.S.-supported U.N. General Assembly resolution condemning it for "systematic, widespread and gross violations of human rights" and devoting scarce resources into pursuing nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles over the welfare of its people.

That came a day after North Korea marked the seventh anniversary of Kim's father, Kim Jong Il, and slammed the United States for "slander" and "sheer malice" for dragging its feet on efforts to improve relations after the June summit in Singapore.

But the commentary run by the official Korean Central News Agency, deliberately focused its criticism on the State Department and administration officials, not at Trump, and suggested that Pyongyang remains open to another summit.

In Loving Memory of

TOMAS BUNDANG CALIMLIM

Born on JANUARY 21, 1939

Called to his eternal home on

November 25, 2018

Pre-deceased by:

Wife: Esther Ekiek Calimlim

Survived by his children:

Frances Calimlim Velasco (Iba, Philippines)

Christopher Calimlim (USA)

Bob Calimlim (USA)

Joseph Calimlim (USA)

William Calimlim (USA)

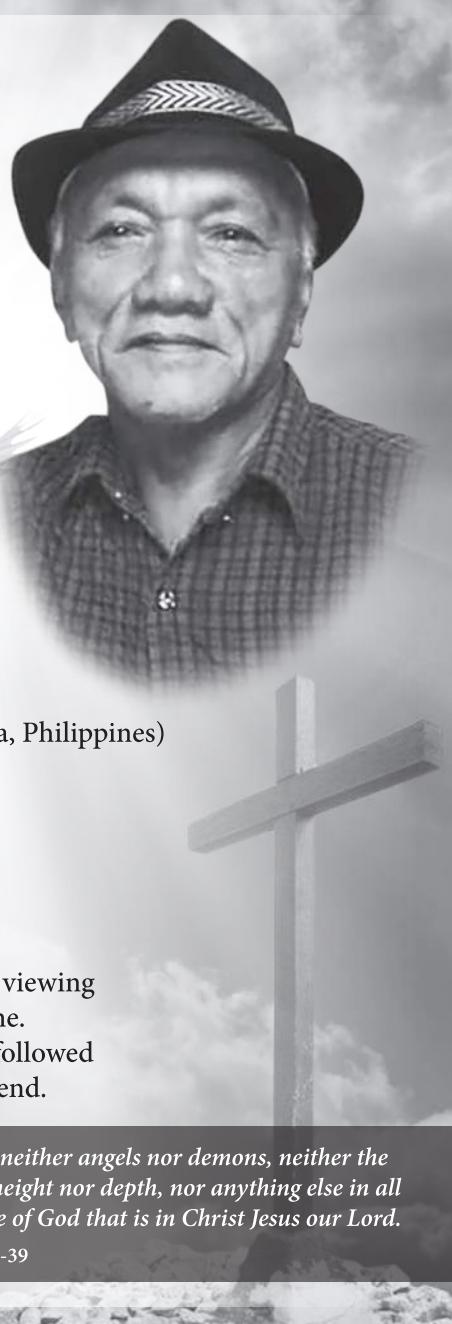
Niece: Rosalyn A. Ajoste (Saipan)

On Saturday, December 22, 2018, public viewing will be at 9:00 a.m. at Borja Funeral Home.

Memorial Services will begin at 9:30am followed by cremation. The public is invited to attend.

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:38-39



Off The Wall

Armored truck spills cash

An armored truck spilled cash on a New Jersey highway Thursday, leading to two crashes as drivers "went a little bit crazy," stopping their cars and scrambling to grab the swirling money.

The frenzy happened during morning rush hour in East Rutherford, near MetLife Stadium, where the New York Giants and New York Jets play.

In online videos, a man in uniform is seen running through traffic trying to collect money, while others exited their cars to do the same.

"People went a little bit crazy when they saw the money," said Danielle Shah, 29, of Bloomfield, New Jersey, who witnessed the incident from a

bus she was riding into New York. "I mean, it seemed like the people who got out of the car—they just didn't care. They parked their cars in the middle of the highway."

A Brink's truck idled in the right shoulder with its lights flashing as the bills blew around the highway. One video showed the bashed-in front end of a sedan as traffic crawled through the blizzard of bills.

Police said the chaos led to two crashes, though it's unclear whether anyone was injured.

Police Capt. Phil Taormina said it appeared that the armored vehicle had an issue with the lock on one of its doors.

In a statement, Brink's confirmed the truck belonged to

the company and said an investigation is under way, but declined further comment.

Police said they don't know how much money spilled.

They later said that people could arrange to return any collected cash without facing charges. They said some people reached out to them about giving back the money and urged them to do so.

These kinds of spills have happened before.

In May, a Brink's truck spilled hundreds of thousands of dollars on an Indianapolis interstate when its back doors swung open. A similar incident unfolded in Maryland in 2012, though only about \$6,000 spilled out then. (AP)

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Inmate in hot water: Police find escapee soaking in hot tub

WAVERLY, Ohio (AP)—An escaped inmate is back in custody after being found soaking in a hot tub at an Ohio senior living community, still wearing her yellow jail outfit. The Pike County Sheriff's Office says the 34-year-old woman fled while being booked on drug-possession charges Tuesday. She was captured by the sheriff and the local police chief several hours later when a 911 caller reported the woman sitting in the hot tub at a senior community's activity center in Waverly, roughly 60 miles (97 kilometers) south of Columbus. Authorities haven't explained how or why the woman ended up there. A message seeking further comment was left Wednesday for the sheriff. His office says the woman is being charged with felony escape in addition to the initial charges for alleged heroin possession.

Russian guards not in a Christmas mood on Estonian border

HELSINKI (AP)—Travelers beware: Russian border guards are not in a Christmas mood. They demanded that a cameraman from a pro-Kremlin broadcaster explain in writing why he was filming a meeting of Jouluvana, the Estonian version of Santa Claus, and Russia's alter ego, Father Frost, on the Estonian-Russian border. The Baltic News Service says Igor Abramson of Russian state-owned broadcaster Channel One Russia apparently "seemed suspicious." BNS said Abramson was "filming the entire surroundings, including Russian bor-

der officials" on Monday on the bridge linking Estonia's third-largest city of Narva to the Russian town of Ivan-gorod. Since 1997, the jovial characters have met there and handed out presents to nurseries and hospitals. Relations between Tallinn and Moscow are notoriously icy. Estonia, a former Soviet republic, still has no valid border treaty with Russia.

Scuba-diving Santa brings holiday cheer to fish, museumgoers

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—It's a busy time for Santa Claus, but he's making time to feed some fish in San Francisco. The California Academy of Sciences launched its holiday festivities Thursday by having a scuba diver dressed as St. Nick submerge into a coral reef exhibit while dozens of children watched from behind the glass. The "Scuba Santa" show runs through Christmas Day. It takes place during the morning feed at the Philippine Coral Reef tank at the San Francisco museum. Volunteer diver George Bell donned his Santa suit, from hat to coal black boots, and scuba gear for a recent feed and fielded visitors' questions from inside the tank. The Philippine Coral Reef tank has thousands of reef fish representing about 100 species. People can watch Santa's appearance online by webcam.

St. Louis police searching for woman's stolen tiny home

ST. LOUIS (AP)—It shouldn't be hard to spot the property stolen from St. Louis resident Meghan Panu. She's looking for a 12-foot-tall tiny home that was stolen some-

time Saturday. The St. Louis Post-Dispatch reports Panu spent the past two years and about \$20,000 working on the 20-foot cedar home. The house was parked outside Refab, a popular spot for home remodeling supplies, when it was taken. Panu says she's gone through surveillance cameras from nearby businesses to try and spot the thief. Panu, a recent graduate of Webster University, planned to finish the interior and move in this spring. Some Facebook posts reported seeing the house being pulled by a pickup truck on Interstate 70 west of St. Louis.

Cow steals spotlight at student's graduation photo shoot

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP)—University of Missouri students were stunned when a towering dairy cow appeared on campus to make a cameo in a graduation photo shoot. The Columbia Missourian reports that senior animal sciences major Massimo Montalbano brought the 3-year-old cow, named Amelia, to campus on Thursday to join his commencement photo shoot. Montalbano worked with cattle throughout his undergraduate studies with the university's Foremost Dairy Research Center. Montalbano initially presented the idea to Jim Spain, the vice provost for undergraduate studies. Spain referred Montalbano to the university's operations department, which ultimately approved the request. Spain says it's not the first time a student has asked him to bring a cow to campus. But it was still a rare sight to unsuspecting bystanders.

Science & Technology

Elon Musk's new tunnel is 'a little rough around the edges'



AP
Elon Musk, co-founder and chief executive officer of Tesla Inc., arrives in a modified Tesla Model X electric vehicle during an unveiling event for the Boring Company Hawthorne test tunnel in Hawthorne, Calif., on Tuesday, Dec. 18, 2018.

Musk described his first ride as "epic."

"For me it was a eureka moment," he told a room full of reporters. "I was like, 'This thing is going to damn well work.'"

He said the rides are bumpy now because "we kind of ran out of time" and there were some problems with the speed of his paving machine.

"It'll be smooth as glass," he said of future systems. "This is just a prototype. That's why it's a little rough around the edges."

Later in the day, Musk emerged from the tunnel himself inside one of his cars. He high-fived guests and pumped his fists in

the air before delivering a speech in the green glow of the tunnel about the technology and why it makes sense.

The demo rides were considerably slower—40 mph (64 kph)—than what Musk says the future system will run at: 150 mph (241 kph). Still, it took only three minutes to go just over a mile from the beginning to the end of the tunnel, the same amount of time it took to accomplish a right-hand turn out of the parking lot and onto a surface street even before the height of Los Angeles' notorious rush-hour traffic.

The tunnel is just a test to prove the technology works and could one day cure traffic.

TECH Q&A Browser video, Web link issues easily fixed

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

Q: I mainly use the Google Chrome browser on my Windows 10 PC. But sometimes video won't play on that browser, and I have to switch to Mozilla Firefox. Sometimes web links won't work on one of those browsers, but they do work on the Microsoft Edge browser. I'd rather just use one browser; where can I get one that works for everything?

A: All browsers have their problems with video and web links, but most are easy to fix. In Google Chrome, the simplest video remedy is to turn off the PC's "hardware acceleration," in which the PC's processor hands video tasks to a graphics chip. But that doesn't always result in a good video experience. See tinyurl.com/yc-toxdp for details on turning off hardware acceleration.

If that doesn't work, try deleting Chrome's accumu-

lated "browsing data," which can conflict with watching video. See the same tinyurl (to make the changes called for, scroll to the bottom of the "settings" screen and click on "advanced.") Note that this deletes the browser's "cookies," the code that identifies you to websites. You will need to log into some websites again.

Clearing Chrome's internet data can also solve some web link problems. Other potential web-link fixes for Chrome include eliminating some browser extensions, replacing the user profile or removing unwanted programs (see tinyurl.com/y7xjhk5n).

Some Mozilla Firefox video problems can also be fixed by turning off hardware acceleration (see tinyurl.com/ych4pnkm). But Firefox also has a unique video issue, a feature called either "content blocking" or "tracking protection." The feature prevents someone from adding code to your browser that will track your

movements from one website to another. But it can also interfere with watching video. (To turn it off, see tinyurl.com/y7d5rhuo).

Firefox web-link problems can also be solved by turning off hardware acceleration or by clearing the cache and cookies (see tinyurl.com/yb4quccw).

Video problems with the Microsoft Edge browser can often be fixed by enabling or updating the browser's Adobe Flash Player software or by downloading the latest software driver for the PC's video card (see tinyurl.com/y8ykk05d).

To fix Web-link problems with Edge, try clearing the browser data (see tinyurl.com/hk5dblk).

Steve Alexander covers technology for the Minneapolis Star Tribune. Readers may write to him at Tech Q&A, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488-0002; email: steve.j.alexander@gmail.com. Please include a full name, city and phone number.

Life & Style

With 'Second Act,' Jennifer Lopez makes her own opportunity

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Jennifer Lopez learned a long time ago that in the entertainment business you can't just sit around waiting for opportunities, you have to make them for yourself. It's the simple reason "Second Act," her first film in three years and her long-awaited return to the glossy, modern-day fairy tale, exists.

"I'm quite particular," Lopez said on a recent afternoon in Los Angeles. "I've been offered a couple of movies over the past couple of years but unless it's the right thing and

I get the right types of opportunities, I'd rather create them. That's mine and Elaine's mantra. We don't force things, but we don't wait around either ... If no one is giving us the stories that we want to tell, then we'll create them ourselves."

Elaine is Elaine Goldsmith-Thomas, Lopez's longtime friend and producing partner who've worked together on projects like "The Boy Next Door" and "Shades of Blue." "Second Act," which hits theaters nationwide Friday, was her idea. She thought

that Lopez would be the right woman to play the 40-year-old big box store worker with business savvy but no degree who gets a chance to prove herself to Madison Avenue's elite. A little bit "Working Girl," a little bit "It's A Wonderful Life," it was right up Lopez's alley.

"We're stuck on these movies because we know, we grew up on them and we know. They're necessary. People



Lopez

need inspiration. They need to believe in a fairy tale," Lopez said. "I think that is the evolution of the romantic comedy. It's not so much about falling in love with Prince Charming, it's about falling

in love with yourself and your life and realizing that you have to be the love of your life."

Lopez, 49, said she even cried describing the story in a pitch meeting to STXfilms Chairman Adam Fogelson

("Our great champion," she said), who agreed on the spot to make the movie.

"(He) believes in these types of movies and believes in women producers," she said.

They signed on a director, Peter Segal ("50 First Dates"), carved out some time in Lopez's busy schedule ("I literally think she's the busiest person on the planet earth," Segal laughed) and got to filming in New York City, which proved to be its own kind of challenge.

"It was crazy shooting in New York with her," Segal said. "I re-

member one scene we're in Central Park, going down the mall, the promenade with her, you know the same one of 'Kramer vs Kramer' and 'When Harry Met Sally' and there are all the vendors who are selling caricatures, and their sketches are like Michael Jackson and Barack Obama and Jennifer Lopez! It's like, 'Hey can we turn those around?' She's everywhere."

Then there were the ever present looky-loos and paparazzi, some of whom they had to digitally erase from shots in post-production.

Critique of Thai Miss Universe gown linked to royal insult

BANGKOK (AP)—A Thai social media influencer who criticized a gown worn by her country's Miss Universe contestant could end up in court after another online personality filed a complaint with police charging that her thumbs-down fashion comment defamed the royal family.

Kitjanut Chaiyosburana, a businessman and politician, said Wednesday that he filed his complaint after seeing a Facebook post by Wanchaleom Jamneaphol, who disparaged a blue dress designed by Princess Srivannavari Nariratana, a daughter of King Maha Vajiralongkorn.

Miss Universe Thailand, Sophida Kancharin, wore the gown during a Dec. 5 promotional event

that was part of the pageant, won in Bangkok on Monday by the Philippines' Catriona Gray.

Police Col. Siriwat Deepor, spokesman for the Technology Crime Suppression Bureau, said the defamation complaint had been received and would be investigated.

Wanchaleom has deleted the critical post and apologized Monday to Princess Srivannavari in another Facebook post.

"Your Royal Highness Sirivannavari Nariratana, I, Wanchaleom Jamneaphol, did not have any intention to insult or disrespect the high institution," Wanchaleom wrote, employing language used exclusively to address Thai royalty. "I feel deeply guilty and

sorry for what had happened."

Police could forward the complaint to prosecutors as a violation of the Computer Crime Act, which carries a punishment of five years in prison and fines for spreading false information and damaging national security. Similar cases have also been treated as lese majeste, or insulting the monarchy, punishable by three to 15 years' imprisonment.

"I acted as a Thai to protect the country's reputation and to set an example," complainant Kitjanut told The Associated Press. "So many times people make careless comments and it ends with just an apology."

Kitjanut and Wanchaleom are both popular figures in Thailand's online LGBT

community. Wanchaleom is a transgender woman with over 500,000 followers on Facebook and Kitjanut is a transgender man with more than 400,000 Facebook followers.

Kitjanut said that he did not want to criticize a fellow member of the LGBT community because people outside already have a negative view of them, but that he acted because he wants justice.

"There are people saying why is a tomboy criticizing a trans," he said. "But for me, it's not about protecting your own group of people, but about right and wrong. She (Wanchaleom) is a big influencer and she has a large following. So she should set a good example for others."

She praised a passing stranger who asked what happened and was thankful to have her pencil and notebook, and to be alive.

Nye's books include "Transfer" and "Red Suitcase."

Poetry readers were in the mood for 'Kindness' in 2018

NEW YORK (AP)—Poetry readers this year have been in the mood for kindness.

The Academy of American Poets announced Wednesday that Naomi Shihab Nye's "Kindness" was the most popu-

lar work on poets.org this year. More than 250,000 people in 2018 clicked on the poem, which features such lines as "It is only kindness that makes sense anymore, only kindness that ties your shoes."

The 66-year-old Nye said in a statement that she was inspired to write the poem after she was robbed on a bus in Colombia and a man she remembered as an "Indian in a white poncho" was murdered.

She praised a passing stranger who asked what happened and was thankful to have her pencil and notebook, and to be alive.

Nye's books include "Transfer" and "Red Suitcase."

Transgender man has kept full story from his parents

DEAR ABBY: I'm a transgender male who has grown up in an area where many people discourage such things. They view what I am as a sin and me as a sinful, satanic child. My parents are against anything different, including the LGBT community.

I have already gone through top surgery, but they don't know about it. What they do know is that I am bisexual. How do I tell them that I am male?

SINFUL CHILD

DEAR "SINFUL" CHILD: Why do you want to make an announcement? You know what will happen the minute you do. If you feel you must say something, say that you have discovered your true self, which is male, and that you are happier now than you have ever been.

After you do that you will be free. You can then start building a family comprised of people who are understanding and accepting, which will be healthier for you than the one you were born into.

DEAR ABBY: My mother and I have been estranged for many years for multiple reasons. She has bad-mouthed me in emails to other relatives and then denied having done it, invited my ex-husband to family birthday parties knowing I wouldn't

show up if he was there, and gone months, sometimes years, without speaking to me over things she has perceived as slights.

I have tried many times to walk away and let the situation go, but I continue being urged by other family members to "be the bigger person," not give up and "just keep trying." I married recently and invited her to the wedding. She texted 48 hours beforehand to indicate she would not be there. I'm wondering, is it OK to stop trying now? I mean, how much of this should one person be forced to take?

JUST ABOUT DONE TRYING

DEAR JUST ABOUT DONE: I see nothing to be gained by continuing to tolerate your mother's passive aggression. If you are asking for my permission to stop doing all the work in the relationship, I am pleased to give it to you now.

DEAR ABBY: I have socialized with a group of women for the past 20 years. Our connection has always been our children. Now the children are grown and gone, one woman in our group keeps trying to include spouses each time we get together.

My husband works long hours. He doesn't enjoy being with these men, and he doesn't want to go on these outings. I have sympathized with him because I don't like the changes either. I'd prefer these events stay girlfriends-only. I have gone solo

STREET ART AP

An artwork by street artist and social commentator Banksy is seen on a garage in Port Talbot, Wales, Wednesday Dec. 19, 2018. A video posted to his official Instagram account on Wednesday afternoon had close-ups of the piece, that references the town's air pollution.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



a few times and stayed away a few times. But my friends are commenting now, and I feel stuck and uncomfortable. Do you have any suggestions?

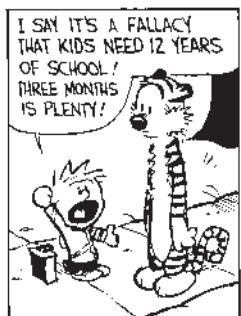
NO FAN IN MINNESOTA

DEAR NO FAN: Yes, be honest. Level with your women friends and say you prefer socializing with them without the husbands. You are entitled to your feelings, and you do not have to elaborate further.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

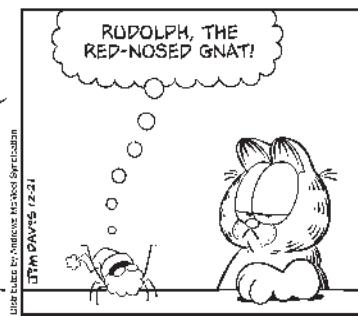
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Waterson

Garfield®



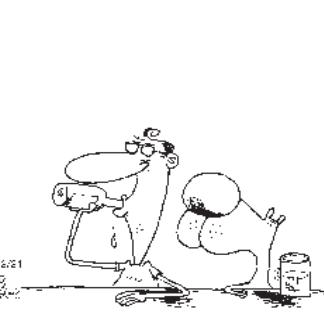
By Jim Davis

Adam@home



By Bryan Basset

The Duplex



By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

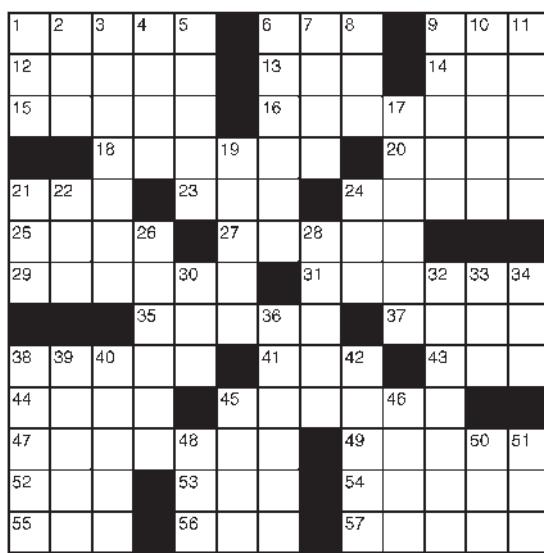
By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	43	Collar	21	Rm.	21	Rm.
1 Lucy's pal	44	Teen's woe	2 — kwon do	coolers	22	Sheepish remark
6 Family docs	45	Central courtyard	3 Neighbor of Austria	24	Stiller or Stein	
9 Skirt edge	47	Neighbor of Sweden	4 Always Relent	26	Toy-train maker	
12 Purple shade	49	44th president	5 Arboreal ape	28	Croc's kin	
13 A Gershwin brother	52	Service charge	7 Quarry	30	Fanatic	
14 Chopping tool	53	Big fuss	8 Erie Canal	32	Neighbor of Germany	
15 Doctrine	54	Hardly hip	9 Israeli mule	33	Mound stat	
16 Neighbor of France	55	Triage ctrs.	10 Outlying port	34	Weep	
18 Dirty	56	Witch	11 Office notes	36	Ballpark snack	
20 Roundish 'do	57	Alan of "Argo"	17 Part of MPG	38	Blunder	
21 Lawyers' org.	DOWN	DOWNTOWN	19 North Carolina	39	Less friendly	
23 Expert	1	1911 responder	fort	40	Queen-lace	
24 Spills the beans	2			42	"Shrek" princess	
25 Poet Sandburg	3			45	Forever — day	
27 One with a halo	4			46	Taxi alternative	
29 Adage	5			48	Satisfied sigh	
31 Battery ends	6			50	1501, in Roman numerals	
35 Should, with "to"	7			51	Writer Rand	
37 Roman emperor	8					
38 Enormous	9					
41 Gut-punch reaction	10					

Solution time: 21 mins.



Yesterday's answer 12-21

**STUMPED?**

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5956 99¢ per minute, touchtone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Steven Yeun, 35; Ray Romano, 61; Samuel L. Jackson, 70; Jane Fonda, 81.

Happy Birthday: Keep things in perspective this year. If you let your emotions take over, you will miss out on what's truly important. Organize your time and refuse to let anyone lure you with fancy words and ideas that will not benefit you. It's time to look out for No. 1 and to make sure you take care of your needs first. Your numbers are 9, 13, 22, 28, 32, 35, 44.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Personal changes can be made that will improve your relationships with the people you care about most. As long as your intentions are good and your motives honorable, you should face little resistance. Joint ventures will be misleading and fruitless. **★★★**

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Take responsibility and you will be respected for your input. A serious discussion with someone you love will get results and help you bring about positive changes to your lifestyle as well as to your romantic encounters. **★★★**

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't take on other people's problems. If someone insists you do something you don't want to do, be blunt and say no. Making promises you don't intend to keep will end up putting you in a worse predicament. **★★★**

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Share your thoughts and feelings with someone you love. If you work as a team, you will get things done. Walk away from anyone trying to

entice you into lavish expenditures or indulgent behavior. Romance should be a priority. **★★★**

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You'll have some great ideas, but before you get started, make sure you have the means to take on what you propose. Wanting to impress others will turn out to be your downfall. It's best to offer less and do more. **★★★★**

ARIES (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Stick to your budget, and make sure everyone else does as well. Monitor what's going on around you and consider how best to avoid an emotional incident. Someone is likely to withhold the truth. Get the facts and avoid joint endeavors. **★★**

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): A trip or conversation will be a learning experience. Listen carefully and offer only what you know is applicable. Knowledge will give you the upper hand, so don't give away all your secrets. Don't disregard an older relative. **★★★★★**

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Get together with friends or relatives for an early festive gathering. Someone will offer you something of value. Find out what's expected in return before you accept. Romance should be a priority. **★★★**

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Emotional matters can get you into trouble if you haven't been honest about the way you feel. Don't hide from the truth or evade issues, or you will make matters worse. Clear the air, and you'll feel better moving forward. **★★★**

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Share your thoughts and feelings with someone you love. If you work as a team, you will get things done. Walk away from anyone trying to

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Make a last-minute change for the right reason. Don't leave someone out of your plans. Remembering mistakes is one thing, but holding a grudge is another. Show compassion and understanding when dealing with friends, relatives and those you live with. **★★**



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Time spent at home in preparation for upcoming events will make you feel good about what you are doing and how you are going to spend the remainder of the year. Youngsters will be insightful and offer an innocent point of view. **★★★★**



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Going out with friends will lead to emotional situations due to indulgent behavior by you or someone you are with. Try to curb any tendency to overdo it emotionally, physically or financially. A practical outlook will save you from loss and regret. **★★**

Birthday Baby: You are careful, respectful and fair. You are outspoken and supportive. To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

3		1	9		8			
	6		5					
	1			6				
7	5				9	1		
2	9				3	6		
	8			4				
	3		1					
1		9	7		5			

Difficulty Level ★★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

1	9	3	6	4	5	8	7	2
7	6	5	2	8	3	9	1	4
8	2	4	9	1	7	3	6	5
6	4	8	3	9	1	2	5	7
3	5	1	7	6	2	4	8	9
2	7	9	4	5	8	6	3	1
5	3	7	8	2	9	1	4	6
9	8	6	1	7	4	5	2	3
4	1	2	5	3	6	7	9	8

12/21

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUVELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backwords. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

FAMOUS PAULS

A D L E I F N I W E D N Y L M
S L N H O J C Y C Y E S A K R
H A L A C H E N I N U M A O A
C O L E R L I A M Y B O R N R
N R G I N D D U R E E L O I E
O E S A S U A A R L L I N V V
S I T R N S O T N O T T E R E
R S R B E A A R T O S O I O R
E E A C G K Y R A D O R L S E
D R I I S E L R G V P N L K N
N L E R O L Y A T N A O E L N
A F O N O B R O W N E N P E A
N R O B E S O N A M W E N E Z
K R A U S E C R E I P Y R A E
A S I M O N I T T A M A I G C

12/21

Aaron, Alice, Allen, Anderson, Anka, Apostle, Bono, Brown, Cannavaro, Cézanne, Chris, Dano, Dooley, Dunbar, Feig, Glamatti, Greengrass, Hogan, Ince, John, Kasey, Klee, Krause, Lambert, Les, Liam, Lynde, Molitor, Muni, Newman, O'Neill, Pierce, Pope, Rand, Rare, Reiser, Revere, Robeson, Rudd, Ryan, Silas, Simon, Sorvino, Stanley, Taylor, Walker, Winfield

Yesterday's Answer: Tisdale

J's Books Collector's Edition is back by popular demand.

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Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS**

BANK OF GUAM,
vs.

Civil Action
No. 14-0219(R)

BRIAN D. RICHARDS and
REGINA E. MASGA
fka REGINA M. RICHARDS,
Defendants.

NOTICE OF
HEARING ON
PLAINTIFF'S
MOTION FOR
AN ORDER TO
SHOW CAUSE
and CONTEMPT
OF COURT

TO: DEFENDANTS BRIAN D. RICHARDS and
REGINA E. MASGA fka REGINA M.
RICHARDS:

Please take notice that Plaintiff, Bank of Guam has filed a Motion for an Order to Show Cause Re: Contempt of Court. This Motion for an Order to Show Cause is based on Defendants' violation of the Court's orders by failing to make the required monthly payments to Plaintiff therefore they should be held in contempt. The Court will hold a hearing on the motion on **January 4, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.** You may file any responsive pleadings as you deem appropriate and provide copies thereof to Plaintiff's counsel, Robert T. Torres at the above address.

/s/ Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk

FOR SALE

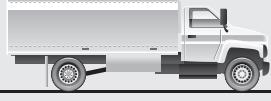
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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Position: CHIEF ACCOUNTANT

Job Description: Analysis of daily recording of revenue and expenditures for correct account classification in accordance with guidelines, generally accepted accounting principles and regulatory requirements; Reviews of all financial transactions entered in the general and subsidiary ledgers ensuring that all costs(labor, materials, overhead and costs) are completely and accurately recorded in the company's accounting system; Monitoring on a regular basis the status of inventory stocks on hand, and coordinates with chefs and purchasing officer regarding propriety of actual charges, compliance with approved budgets; Review of monthly budget-to-actual variances and cash flow sources and uses of funds; Based on results of analytics review, investigates causes of variances and prepares report for management information; Review and analysis of monthly operating report on activities and resources in support of compiled daily revenues and expenditures, aging, reports for receivables and payables and profit and loss accounts; Implementation of strict adherence to established internal control systems and procedures; Review of periodic tax filing (monthly gross receipt tax, corporate income tax return, FICA and EWR quarterly reports).

Minimum Qualifications: Must have a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting; With at least 5-years of relevant work experience in Accounting; Must have knowledge and experience in Accounting software; Must be computer literate; and Must possess excellent written and verbal communication skills.

Job Site: Garapan, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

How to Apply: Submit or mail resume and credentials to:

JULIETA D. CUNANAN
President
D'ELEGANCE ENTERPRISES, INC.

Office Address: Garapan, Saipan,
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 501106, Saipan, MP 96950
Email Address: delegancesaipan@gmail.com
Telephone Number: (670) 234-9226

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
San Jose Village • P.O. Box 502149 • Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. Nos: (670) 234-7145/7146/6293/6249 • Fax No.: (670) 235-7147
Website: www.developcnmi.com

INVITATION FOR BIDS 2019-CDA-03-IFB

CLOSING DATE: Friday, December 28, 2018 • **TIME:** 10:00 AM

"JANITORIAL and LAWN CARE SERVICES FOR CDA"

Copies of the Scope of Work may be obtained at the Commonwealth Development Authority office, 2nd Floor CDA Bldg, in Oleai, Saipan during regular working hours or by facsimile request to 235-7147, or on our website: www.developcnmi.com.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfection in a bid in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/s/ DONNIE P. MILITANTE
Acting Executive Director

/s/ JOSEPH A. TUDELA
Acting Director, Procurement & Supply

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP NO.: RFP19-DOF-002

SUBMISSION DATE: JANUARY 11, 2019 • TIME: 09:30 A.M.

"GROUP LIFE INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES AND RETIREES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE"

THE SCOPE OF WORK FOR THIS PROJECT WILL BE AVAILABLE ON DECEMBER 10, 2018 AT THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY LOCATED IN CAPITOL HILL, BUILDING NO. 1302, ASCENCION DRIVE.

ALL QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP **MUST** BE SUBMITTED VIA FACSIMILE TO MS. LARRISA C. LARSON, SECRETARY OF FINANCE, TO (670) 664-1115 **NO LATER THAN 04:00 P.M., LOCAL TIME, JANUARY 04, 2019.**

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/s/ LARRISA C. LARSON
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Goff, Rams not panicking after consecutive losses



THOUSAND OAKS, Calif.

(AP)—The Los Angeles Rams insist there is no panic internally after losing consecutive games for the first time under coach Sean McVay.

Convincing those outside the team that everything is fine is another matter.

"My wife got vitamins out in the morning when we lose two games," cornerback Aqib Talib said Wednesday. "You got to just get back to the basics and play football."

Quarterback Jared Goff, who has been receiving the most scrutiny for his performances in losses at Chicago and against Philadelphia, was emphasizing that message. Goff's production has dropped off during the past three games, throwing one touchdown pass and six interceptions in that span after posting a 26-to-6 touchdown to interception ratio over the first 11 games of the season.

Goff had another interception against the Eagles changed to a lost fumble by league statisticians, not that it offered any solace.

"Doesn't matter," Goff said. "It was a turnover."

Cutting down on giveaways is the priority for the Rams (11-3) before facing Arizona on the road Sunday. Everything else brought up as the reason for the downturn in his productivity, from wide receiver Cooper Kupp's season-ending knee injury to struggles in pass protection, does not matter nearly as much as playing turnover-free football, Goff said.

"I think each game is independent of each other," Goff said. "I don't think there's one singular thing. You look at the last game, just made a couple of dumb plays that hurt us and



AP

Los Angeles Rams running back Todd Gurley runs over Philadelphia Eagles free safety Corey Graham during the first half in an NFL football game Sunday, Dec. 16, 2018, in Los Angeles.

can't do that."

Goff said there is an extra determination to avoid similar mistakes against the Cardinals (3-11), which McVay said reflects the team's commitment to getting back on track over the final two weeks of the regular season. Though he always stresses process over outcome, McVay admitted there is a different level of intensity this week because of the two losses.

"I'd like to think that re-

gardless of what the outcome is, it's the same, but human nature doesn't really allow that," McVay said. "I know there's an increased sense of urgency from us as coaches. I sense that from the players."

McVay said nothing changes in terms of the Rams' preparations going into their final road game of the regular season, which includes the hand gestures and verbal cues the offense uses at the line of

scrimmage to make adjustments, even after Arizona claimed wide receiver and return specialist Pharoh Cooper on Wednesday after the Rams placed him on waivers.

Passing game coordinator Shane Waldron said there was no need to change signals despite the understanding Cooper would be giving his new team detailed information on audibles and other aspects of the offense.

"I mean, there are some teams in the league where those signals or some of those things have been the same since 15 years moving forward," Waldron said. "Some of those things, I think, are overvalued. You got to go out there and play football and execute at a high level. If you start worrying too much about hand signals or codewords you're not allowing yourself to play fast, so we still feel we

can operate as we have been operating."

As confident as Waldron is in the mechanics of operating the offense, McVay remains just as enthused about Goff, provided his quarterback uses the handful of plays that have hindered the Rams the past two weeks to improve.

"Unfortunately, in him, we keep talking about two plays, and that's the nature of the quarterback position," McVay said. "But I would say this, we'll continue to learn from it."

Goff has no doubts he and the Rams offense will reap the benefits, no vitamins necessary.

"Again, we're talking about things going bad when two weeks ago it was a much different conversation," Goff said. "We need to fix some things and get some things ironed out and we will. I expect to do that this week."

Panthers shutting down QB Newton

The Carolina Panthers star and 2015 NFL MVP did not practice Wednesday and won't play Sunday, general manager Marty Hurney confirmed.

Newton has been dealing with a sore throwing shoulder recently, and his play has suffered along with the club's. After a 6-2 start, the Panthers have lost six straight and have been all but mathematically eliminated from playoff contention. They are currently in ninth place in the NFC's aggregate standings.

Newton has only missed three games in his eight-year career up until now.

Statistically, he'll wind up with one of his best seasons, posting career bests for completions (320) and completion percentage (67.9) under first-year coordinator Norv Turner. Newton's 94.2 passer rating trails only the 99.4 from his MVP campaign.

Newton claimed earlier this month, "Honestly, I feel like I'm playing the best football of my career," a comment that had some truth but also led to inevitable blowback given the team's struggles.

The Panthers host the NFC South rival Falcons on Sunday. Taylor Heinicke, who's replaced Newton lately in Hail Mary situations, will make his first NFL start against Atlanta. Kyle Allen is expected to be signed off the practice squad to serve as Heinicke's backup.

Rodgers gets 7th Pro Bowl nod in Packers' playoff-less year

GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP)

—A lost season coming to a close without a trip to the playoffs for the Green Bay Packers is ending in a familiar spot for Aaron Rodgers. He's headed to the Pro Bowl for the seventh time in his career.

"Yeah, I think there's a lot of pride with that. Especially knowing the struggles early in the season with my health, and I'm very appreciative," Rodgers said Wednesday.

It has been quite the winding road for the Packers and their franchise quarterback since the season-opening win in September against the Chicago Bears. Rodgers hurt his left knee in that game before returning after halftime to lead Green Bay's rousing 24-23 win following falling to a 20-point deficit.

The victory turned out to be

the highlight for a disappointing year in Titletown.

Rodgers worked through the injury early in the season, missing practice at times to focus on rehab. Injuries to receivers Randall Cobb and Geronimo Allison meant more playing time for Marquez Valdes-Scantling and Equanimeous St. Brown, rookies who hadn't developed the kind of rapport veterans Cobb and Allison had with the quarterback.

Going into this weekend's game against the New York Jets, Rodgers' 61.8 percent completion rate was his lowest since his 60.7 rate in 2015, the year that then-top receiver Jordy Nelson was sidelined with a knee injury. The Packers (5-8-1) are 0-7 on the road, having led or been competitive in the second half in each of their last five road defeats

before falling short.

Season-long struggles on third down and in the red zone helped contribute to the demise of coach Mike McCarthy, who was fired after a stunning 20-17 home loss on Dec. 2 to the lowly Arizona Cardinals.

Rodgers still set an NFL record after throwing 402 attempts without an interception, a streak that ended last week in the 24-17 loss at Chicago that helped extinguish Green Bay's faint playoff hopes.

"I think there (are) a lot of teams in the National Football League that would love to have a quarterback with 23 touchdowns and two interceptions, and who's battled through some things and provided leadership to the football team each and every week," interim head coach Joe

Philbin said.

Rodgers said he hurt his groin last week, though he played the whole game. A year ago, Rodgers sat out the final two weeks after a one-game return from a collarbone injury when the Packers were eliminated that week following a loss to Carolina.

Rodgers said he is playing this week, adding he was a full participant in practice on Wednesday.

"Well, I think it's a lot about leadership. If I want to be listened to and followed and looked up to, how could I stand here and say that 'these games that don't matter for playoffs, I'm going to cash it in,'" Rodgers said.

"That's just not the way I lead, and I'm super competitive," he added, "and I want to be out there with the guys,

and I look forward to being out there."

Another motivating factor to playing could be how close Davante Adams is to setting franchise receiving records. After reaching 100 catches for the first time in his career, Adams needs 13 over the final two games to break Sterling Sharpe's mark for catches in a season.

At 1,315 yards receiving, Adams is 205 from breaking Nelson's single-season yardage record set in 2014. Asked if he was keeping track, Adams said he wasn't counting.

"That would be cool, we'll see," Adams said with a smile. "Hopefully A-Rod's counting, so we'll see."

Adams was also voted to the Pro Bowl roster on Tuesday. It's the second trip for Adams, but his first original selection.

MLB, Cuba reach landmark deal



**N E W
YORK**

Major League Baseball and the players association announced this afternoon that they've reached an agreement with the Cuban Baseball Federation to allow players from the island to be scouted and signed by the league without having to defect.

Unless scuttled by the Trump administration, the deal would facilitate Cuban players' entry into American professional baseball while avoiding the dangerous journeys and dealings with human smugglers that have marked many of their departures.

For decades, Cuban players have risked their lives and incarceration if caught by escaping from their homeland in furtive boat trips to destinations like Mexico, Haiti or the Dominican Republic, where they could establish residency and pursue multimillion-dollar contracts.

All-Stars such as Mets outfielder Yoenis Cespedes, Dodgers outfielder Yasiel Puig and White Sox first baseman Jose Abreu made it out that way, though details of their escapes have been sketchy because of fear their relatives may face retribution back home.

In many instances, players like Cespedes and Indians outfielder Leonys Martin have been the subject of monetary demands and even extortion from some of the people who helped them defect. Puig endured a harrowing ordeal leaving Cuba via Mexico in 2012 with assistance from human smugglers who later threatened to kill him, according to a 2014 lawsuit.

"To know future Cuban players will not have to go through what we went through makes me so happy," Puig



AP
Los Angeles Dodgers' Yasiel Puig (66) dives to catch the ball hit by Milwaukee Brewers' Orlando Arcia during the seventh inning of Game 7 of the National League Championship Series baseball game Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018, in Milwaukee.

said. "I want to thank everyone who was involved in making this happen."

At the beginning of last season, there were 17 natives of Cuba on major league rosters and disabled lists, the fourth-largest contingent of foreign-born players in the game. Abreu and Yankees closer Aroldis Chapman were picked for the All-Star Game.

That representation figures to increase with a less-hazardous journey to the majors from one of baseball's perennial hot spots for talent.

"For years, Major League Baseball has been seeking to end the trafficking of baseball players from Cuba by criminal organizations by creating a safe and legal alternative for those players to sign with Major League Clubs," Commissioner Rob Manfred said in a statement. "We believe that this agreement accomplishes that objective and will allow the next generation of Cuban players to pursue their dream

without enduring many of the hardships experienced by current and former Cuban players who have played Major League Baseball."

During a trip to Cuba for an exhibition game by the Tampa Bay Rays in March 2016 — which coincided with President Barack Obama's visit — Manfred expressed optimism about striking a deal for Cuban players to join major league clubs, perhaps by the end of that year.

That goal was jeopardized with the November election to the presidency of Donald Trump, a Republican with more of a hard-line approach toward the island's Communist government than his predecessor.

While Trump has yet to comment publicly about the agreement, a senior administration official responded to the recent development.

"Major League Baseball's proposed program of cooperation with the Cuban Baseball Federation would institutionalize a system by which a Cu-

ban body garnishes the wages of hard-working athletes who simply seek to live and compete in a free society. The Administration is actively assessing the Obama-era policies that Major League Baseball appears to have leveraged to enter into this arrangement with the Cuban Baseball Federation."

Some officials in the administration believe MLB is acting under a ruling from the State Department (under Obama) that the Cuban federation is not a part of the regime, and thus U.S. companies are allowed to enter into contracts with that entity. However, current State Department could rescind or change that determination and make the CBF off limits to U.S. businesses.

The agreement has already drawn opposition from members of the Cuban-American community, which has grappled in recent years with former President Obama's historic rapprochement with the reality the Cuban people live with each and every day."

Trump's moves to scale back that opening.

Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart, R-Florida, one of the strongest critics of Obama's diplomatic and economic opening with Cuba, equated the MLB deal with "human trafficking" in a tweet Wednesday morning.

He blasted the fees that U.S. franchises would have to pay the CBF, which is controlled by the Cuban government and would enrich the communist regime. He called such payments "shameful" and called on Trump to halt the deal.

"The concept that Cuban baseball players are free human beings and can make choices irrespective of the regime, of that dictatorship that controls their lives, is an absolute fallacy," Diaz-Balart said Wednesday.

"Baseball players are a commodity that the regime deals in. Not understanding that is not understanding the reality the Cuban people live with each and every day."

But Ric Herrero says that

analysis misses the fact that the ones who would benefit the most from the MLB proposal are the Cuban people. Herrero, policy director of the Cuba Study Group, a collection of Cuban-American business leaders that advocates for a more open relationship with Cuba, described the fees paid to the CBF as a "collateral benefit" that is far outweighed by the benefits for Cuban players, their families and their communities.

By implementing a formalized agreement, Herrero said the dangerous defections Cuban baseball players have endured will be a thing of the past. He said the quality of life of their families in Cuba will be dramatically improved. And on an island where the black market rules and Cubans must hide assets sent to them by relatives abroad, he said a legal system of creating wealth inside of Cuba would serve as a shining example of what's possible and push Cubans to demand expanded access to similar avenues of capital.

"In order for a society to put itself on a path toward sustainable growth, it needs to allow for some degree of wealth creation. (The MLB deal) is now going to drive that conversation more than anything else," Herrero said. "It brings the issue front and center in a crystal-clear way, because everyone understands that a major league baseball player gets paid enormous sums of money."

MLB said the agreement stipulates the CBF must release all players under contract who are at least 25 and have six or more years of playing service. The federation also has the option of releasing younger players to sign with MLB clubs.

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Rockets set record with 26 3s in rout of Wizards



HOUSTON (AP) —James Harden scored 35 points as the Houston Rockets set an NBA record with 26 3-pointers and won their fifth straight game, 136-118, over the Washington Wizards on Wednesday night.

A 3 by Gary Clark tied the record with 2:42 left and fans began chanting: "Three, three, three," every time Houston got the ball after that. The Rockets missed their next four tries before Michael Carter-Williams hit one with 31.1 seconds left and was greeted with loud cheers. The previous record was held by the Cleveland Cavaliers, who made 25 against Atlanta on March 3, 2017.

Harden made six 3s, Chris Paul added 5 and Gerald Green and Eric Gordon made 4 each on a night Houston attempted 55.

The winning streak ties their longest of the season and comes after the Rockets lost their previous three games.

Houston had a comfortable lead throughout most of this one and seven straight points, capped by a dunk from Clint Capela, made it 111-94 with about nine minutes left.

Tomas Satoransky and Bradley Beal made back-to-back 3-pointers for Washington after that, but Harden ended the run with a 3 that left Houston ahead 114-100.

The Rockets then used a 12-3 run, with all their points coming on 3s, to make it 123-103 with about five minutes left. Harden and Gordon both made one in that span and Green capped the spurt with two, and coach Mike D'Antoni cleared the bench soon after.

Beal had 28 points to lead the Wizards, who lost for the sixth time in seven games.

Houston led by 12 at half-time and a basket by Paul left the Rockets up 80-64 with about nine minutes left in the third quarter. The Wizards used a 6-3 run, with four points from Wall, after that to cut the lead to 83-70.

The Rockets made four quick points later in the quarter, highlighted by a nifty reverse layup by Gordon, to leave them up 91-76 with about 3½ minutes left in the quarter.

Washington got within 11 late in the third quarter, but Harden scored the next five points, capped by a 3-pointer, to make it 101-85.

The Wizards scored the last five points of the quarter, with three free throws, to cut the lead to 101-90 entering the fourth.

The victory comes after the Wizards won the first meeting against Houston this season 135-131 in overtime on Nov.



26, despite a season-high 54 points from Harden.

Thunder 132, Kings 113

In Sacramento, Paul George scored 43 points, Russell Westbrook had a triple-double and Steven Adams grabbed a career-high 23 rebounds in the Oklahoma City Thunder's victory over the Kings.

George hit four 3-pointers and went 9 of 10 from the free throw line. Westbrook had 19 points, 17 assists and 11 rebounds for the 112th triple-double of his career.

George and Adams had double-doubles—George pulled down 12 rebounds and Adams scored 20 points—as the Thunder won for the eighth time in 11 games. Oklahoma City finished with a season-high 66 boards.

Jazz 108, Warriors 103

In Salt Lake City, Joe Ingles scored 20 points while Rudy Gobert had 17 points and 15 rebounds to lead the Utah Jazz to a win over the Golden State Warriors.

Jae Crowder score 18 points and Donovan Mitchell added

15 points on 5-of-26 shooting for the Jazz, who won their fourth straight at home.

Stephen Curry scored 32 points and Kevin Durant added 30 to lead Golden State in just its second loss in eight games.

After taking a three-point lead at halftime, the Jazz stayed in front through much of the third quarter as Ingles, Korver and Crowder combined for seven 3-pointers over the last half of the quarter.

Suns 111, Celtics 103

In Boston, Devin Booker had 25 points and eight assists, and DeAndre Ayton added 23 points and 18 rebounds to lead the suddenly resurgent Phoenix Suns past the Boston Celtics.

It was the fourth consecutive victory for the Suns since opening the season 4-24. Phoenix has its first four-game winning streak since March 2015.

T.J. Warren scored 21 points and Kelly Oubre Jr. had 13 for the Suns.

Kyrie Irving led Boston with 29 points and Jayson Tatum had 18. The Celtics lost their second straight after win-

ning eight in a row.

Hornets 110, Cavaliers 99

In Charlotte, Kemba Walker had 30 points and six assists to help Charlotte rally past Cleveland.

Walker was coming off a season-low four points in Saturday's 128-100 home loss to the Los Angeles Lakers in which he shot 2 for 13 from the field and missed all five 3-point tries. After missing his first seven shots against Cleveland, Walker got untracked and Charlotte evened its season record to .500 (15-15).

It was Walker's ninth 30-point game this season.

76ers 131, Knicks 109

In Philadelphia, Joel Embiid had 24 points and 10 rebounds, Ben Simmons got his second triple-double in three games to lead Philadelphia.

Simmons had 13 points, 11 rebounds and 10 assists. Jimmy Butler added 20 points and Landry Shamet had a career-high 17 off the bench for the Sixers, who shot 53.4 percent from the field and 50 percent

beat Indiana.

Kawhi Leonard scored 28 points, Pascal Siakam had 17 and Greg Monroe 13 as Toronto snapped a two-game losing streak. The Raptors, who have the best record in the NBA at 24-9, avoided their second three-game slump of the season.

VanVleet scored nine of his 11 points in the final quarter as Toronto won its 10TH straight home meeting with the Pacers. Indiana has not won in Toronto since March 1, 2013.

Spurs 129, Magic 90

In Orlando, LeMarcus Aldridge scored 20 points and five San Antonio players scored in double figures in the win.

The Spurs, the NBA's leading 3-point shooting team, went 12 of 19 from behind the arc and 50 for 77 overall (64.9 percent) to win for the sixth time in seven games.

Marco Belinelli came off the bench and scored 18 points on 7-for-9 shooting, and DeMar DeRozan and Bryan Forbes added 17 points each.

Raptors 99, Pacers 96

In Toronto, Fred VanVleet hit a go-ahead 3-pointer with 25 seconds left and Toronto rallied from a 17-point deficit to

Pistons 129, Timberwolves 123 OT

In Minneapolis, Blake Griffin scored 34 points and Randy Bullock added a career-high 33 as the Detroit Pistons beat the Timberwolves in overtime.

Reggie Jackson added 24 points and Andre Drummond had 16 points and 16 rebounds for Detroit, which trailed by 14 going into the fourth quarter but rallied behind its strong 3-point shooting.

Derrick Rose led Minnesota with 33 points, while Robert Covington scored 22 and Karl-Anthony Towns and Andrew Wiggins each had 16.

Column: LeBron offering hints on Lakers big trade?

NEW YORK

LeBron James probably knew it the moment his attempted dunk over Brooklyn Nets center Jarrett Allen resulted in the eighth block of his illustrious career, saying, "It's probably all over social media," after the Los Angeles Lakers' 115-110 loss Tuesday night.

The first-quarter play energized the youthful Nets, and James attributed the block to his advancing age, two weeks before his 34th birthday.

"He's in his 20s, I'm in my 30s. It takes me a little longer to get warmed up," James said at his locker after a 36-point, 13-rebound, eight-assist showing wasn't enough to keep his team from finishing a four-game road trip with a 1-3 mark.

At 18-13, it's probably taking the Lakers a little longer than planned to establish some consistency. It seemed like they had quietly turned a corner and were humming along before this road trip exposed some personnel flaws, issues focusing for long stretches and the expected adversity that comes with the changing expectations of James' arrival.

James does appear to be getting a little antsy, as he is wont to do this time of year, maybe even more so in a Western Conference that has

very little separation.

Before the game, he told ESPN the prospect of the Lakers acquiring New Orleans Pelicans star Anthony Davis would be "amazing." Davis and James are both represented by Klutch Sports, and Davis' next destination has been rumored for years even though he's not a free agent this summer.

Adding to it, James and close friend Carmelo Anthony were spotted dining together Monday night in New York, again prompting the idea of the Lakers picking up Anthony—assuming he'll be released from the Houston Rockets following a mutual exile.

James has vocally pushed back against the notion that Anthony's presence disrupted the Rockets, believing Anthony can still contribute to a team. James has long said he would like to play with his longtime friend, so he doesn't appear to mind the topic being broached.

"We'll see," James said Tuesday night. "I'm not ... I don't run the team and obviously there are some things that need to be worked out on both sides, but I've always wanted to play along with Melo, and if the opportunity presents itself, it would be great. So we'll see what happens."

Messi warns teammates against Lyon

MADRID—Lionel Messi is looking forward to an exciting Champions League match-up against Lyon, but warns Barca against no taking their opponents not seriously enough as it had happened last season against AS Roma.

"It's going to be a hugely complicated game, but it is the same with every opponent in the Champions League," Messi told reporters.

"Before the draw, Lyon were not the strongest name in the hat but it will be a complicated task for sure. They



played in a really difficult group fighting face to face against Manchester City, one of the best teams in the world.

"It's going to be really difficult to get through but the game is still very far away in February and a lot of things can happen. We don't know what form we're going to be in, or Lyon, so there are still a lot of games to be played before that but it will still be a complicated tie."

Barca have been drawn against Lyon in the Champions League round of 16. The teams have been placed



Barcelona's Lionel Messi, front right, duels for the ball with Atletico Madrid's Rodri during a Spanish La Liga soccer match at the Metropolitano stadium in Madrid, Saturday, Nov. 24, 2018. AP

NMI

From Page 36

team wants to be in and only the top teams make it this far, so playing in the finals is an honor," Cho told *Saipan Tribune*. "The pressure is just another distraction, once the game starts, that pressure goes away and I play how I need to play to lead my team to the win," said Cho, who is one of the Islanders' team captains.

"Winning the title was an amazing feeling because we ended up being an undefeated team and being the captain of this team really is a great way to cap off my senior season," said Cho.

The Finals MVP, who used to play for TanHoldings Football Club when his family was still based on Saipan, towed JFK to three straight finals appearances and gave the Islanders two championships. Cho hit the winning goal in their finals win over St. John's in 2016 and scored one of the two shots in their shootout loss to Father Dueñas last year.

Besides getting the Finals MVP, Cho also made it to the IIAAG Boys HS All-Island First Team and scored 20 goals in the 2018 season. With all these achievements, he wanted to give credits to his coaches, including those who taught him to love the sport when he was still on Saipan.

"I am very thankful to the coaches that taught me how fun soccer is. That made me love the game and brought



GUAM FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION PHOTO

JFK Islanders' Eddie Cho, center, holds the Finals MVP presented to him by Guam Football Association and Independent Interscholastic Athletic Association of Guam officials during the awards ceremony last Wednesday.

me up to the skill level I am today from when I was just a little boy. Without them, I would have probably never played soccer at this point of my life," Cho said.

He also thanked Northern Mariana Islands Football Association for giving him the opportunity to play for the CNMI.

"I have high respect for NMI-FA and I'd never forget what NMI has taught and brought to me as a player. I am thankful to the players, coaches, officials, and staff associated with the program," Cho said.

Meanwhile, NMIFA staff Jersh Angeles, who used to coach Cho in TanHoldings FC and the CNMI national youth team (U13 and U14 squads), congratulated Cho and was impressed with the JFK team captain's big improvement.

"I coached him when he played for TanHoldings U10

TANHOLDINGS

From Page 36

Daniel Mar Pablo, and Ian Karl and Jim Kurt Maniago. Completing the Kanoa delegation is club president Merlie Tolentino, team manager Cristy Villaflor, and assistant coach Sebastien Manabat.

After their game against Wings FC, Kanoa will challenge Southern Cobra tonight at 7pm.

Meanwhile, TanHoldings will also play today and it will take on the Southern Cobra's

in the second batch meaning that they will face each other on February 19 and March 13 while the members of the first batch will play their games on February 12/13 and March 5/6. The first match between the Catalans and the Frenchmen will take place at the Groupama Stadium with the second leg at the Camp Nou in Barcelona.

Lyon have finished second in the group F where they have faced Manchester City, Shakhtar Donetsk and Hoffenheim. Curiously, the French team have picked up the most

points against Pep Guardiola's team—four. The Citizens lost at home 1-2 with Maxwell Cornet and Nabil Fekir scoring for the visitors and were extremely lucky to draw Lyon in France 2-2 as Cornet only managed a brace despite having plenty of chances for his third or even fourth goals.

The Ligue 1 side only managed four points in the other four games against way less demanding opponents. Interestingly, they haven't lost a single game in the Champions League 2018/19 so far.

Tennis groups promise to address corruption issues

LONDON (AP)—Tennis' governing bodies have promised to deliver a "timely implementation" of recommendations to tackle corruption in the sport.

An independent review of corruption in tennis was prompted after the BBC and BuzzFeed News published reports in January 2016 alleging that governing bodies ignored widespread evidence of match-fixing involving more than a dozen players.

Following the release of an interim report in April, an independent panel has published its final recommendations that include limiting the

supply of official live scoring data, eliminating all sponsorship deals with gambling companies and expanding the staffing and reach of the Tennis Integrity Unit — the anti-corruption group established in 2008.

In a joint statement, the ITF, ATP, WTA and the four Grand Slam tournaments—the Australian Open, French Open, Wimbledon and U.S. Open—said they would work to implement the recommendations, adding that "delivering a world-class anti-corruption regime for professional tennis remains a paramount priority."

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Goff, Rams not panicking after consecutive losses

PAGE 32

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

CHO WINS FINALS MVP, CHAMPIONSHIP

Former NMI national player stands out

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Former CNMI national youth team player Eddie Cho capped his senior year with John F. Kennedy High School in style, handing the Islanders the championship in the 2018 Independent Interscholastic Athletic Association of Guam Boys Soccer League and winning the Finals MVP.

The Islanders defeated Harvest Christian Academy in the finals, 3-1, last Wednesday at the Guam Football Association National Training Center in Dededo with Cho passing to Noah Mueller for the go-ahead goal in the second half before



GUAM FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION PHOTO

JFK Islanders' Eddie Cho, right, is chased by three St. Paul defenders during their semis game in the 2018 Independent Interscholastic Athletic Association of Guam Boys Soccer League last week.

delivering the insurance for JFK. Tayler Bonner made the other goal for the Islanders, while Seung Min Kim scored for the Eagles, giving Harvest

Christian the shaky lead after the first half of the finals.

Cho and the Islanders entered the finale



with a 13-0 record, putting more pressure to the team, as it aimed at earning a perfect mark in the season. The

17-year-old player, who suited up for the CNMI on three occasions with the recent one in the AFC U16 Championship 2018 Qualifiers in Thailand

last year, admitted he was a little bit edgy, but only at the beginning of the title game.

"The finals is where every See NMI on Page 35

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

TanHoldings Football Club's girls U15 team and Kanoa FC's boys U15 squad left Saipan yesterday for a series of matches in the Guam-NMI Friendlies this weekend.

TanHoldings, Kanoa set for friendlies

The two visiting teams arrived in Guam late in the morning and were scheduled to play their first game last night. Kanoa was



paired against Wings FC in the 7pm match, while TanHoldings debuted against the Islanders in the 5:30pm tiff. Results of nei-

ther match were unavailable as of press time.

Kanoa is bannered by players who suited up for the club's cham-

pion team in the 2018 NMIFA Youth Spring League. The Raymond Zapanta-coached squad is made up of

Joe Emil Antonio, John Mark Anastacio, Zyrus Lester Bata, Markus and Merrick Toves, Renz Guiller Fauni, Sean Gil, Taehun Han, Brian and Ian Lubao, Jonathan Mindanao,

See TANHOLDINGS on Page 35



TanHoldings Football Club, left, and Kanoa FC players and officials pose for a photo at the boarding area of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport yesterday before heading to Guam for a series of matches this weekend.

BEA CABRERA